

1 AN ACT relating to veterinarian licensing and making an appropriation therefor.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 321.175 is amended to read as follows:

4 ***This chapter shall be known as the Kentucky Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.***

5 **(1)** It is hereby declared:

6 **(a)** That the ~~practices~~^{practice} of veterinary medicine, **veterinary technology,**
7 **animal euthanasia, and allied animal health professionals and the**
8 **operation of veterinary facilities, AAHP facilities, and board-certified**
9 **animal control agencies are privileges which are**~~[is a privilege which is]~~

10 granted by legislative authority **and are subject to regulation and control** in
11 the interest of public health, safety, and welfare~~[-]~~ to protect the public from:

12 **1.** Being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous, and unauthorized
13 practitioners;~~[-, and from]~~

14 **2.** Unprofessional or illegal practices by persons licensed to practice
15 veterinary medicine~~[-]~~ **and veterinary technology;**

16 **3. Substandard care; and**

17 **4. Unlicensed persons;**~~[this chapter is enacted in the interest of the health,~~
18 ~~safety, and welfare of the animal population and the citizens of~~
19 ~~Kentucky.]~~

20 **(b) It is a matter of public interest and concern that the practices of veterinary**
21 **medicine, veterinary technology, and animal euthanasia, and allied animal**
22 **health professions working on animals as described in this chapter, merit**
23 **and receive the confidence of the public and that only qualified individuals**
24 **be permitted to practice these professions in the Commonwealth. This**
25 **chapter shall be liberally construed to carry out these objectives and**
26 **purposes;**

27 **(c) That the intent of this chapter is to regulate the professions of veterinary**

- 1 medicine, veterinary technology, animal euthanasia, and allied animal
2 health professional work on animals and to establish standards for
3 veterinary premises and AAHP premises, both fixed and mobile, and shall
4 result in displacing competition by restricting licensure, permitting,
5 certification, and registration to practice these professions, as this practice
6 is defined and interpreted by the board, to persons and premises determined
7 by the board to be qualified under this chapter; and
- 8 (d) That any resulting restriction on competition is outweighed by the broader
9 interest in protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. It is
10 understood that the regulatory structure calls for veterinarians, veterinary
11 technicians, AAHPs, and citizens at large to serve on the board and this
12 chapter recognizes the need for professional expertise provided by
13 veterinarians and veterinary technicians serving the public interest.
- 14 (2) This chapter is intended to provide active oversight and supervision through its
15 legislative enactment, the promulgation of administrative regulations, the
16 appointment of board members by the Governor, legal representation of the
17 board by competent counsel, legislative appropriation of moneys and spending
18 authority to support the board, and engagement in the administrative regulation
19 review process under the auspices of the Legislative Research Commission.
- 20 (3) It is the purpose of this chapter to promote, preserve, and protect the public
21 health, safety, and welfare by and through the licensure, permitting, certification,
22 registration, and regulation of individuals, whether physically located within or
23 outside of the Commonwealth, who practice veterinary medicine, veterinary
24 technology, animal euthanasia, and AAHP services within Kentucky, and the
25 registration of veterinary facility locations, AAHP facility locations, and mobile
26 facilities where veterinary medicine or AAHP activities are being practiced. In
27 furtherance of this purpose, this chapter creates the Kentucky Board of

1 Veterinary Examiners, whose members, functions, and procedures shall be
2 established in accordance with this chapter.

3 (4) The purpose of this chapter is to establish a comprehensive scheme to fully
4 occupy the fields of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, AAHP work on
5 animals, and animal euthanasia, and provide a uniform regulatory scheme to be
6 enforced by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners as defined in the scopes
7 of practice.

8 ➔SECTION 2. KRS 321.181 IS REPEALED AND REENACTED TO READ
9 AS FOLLOWS:

10 As used in this chapter:

11 (1) "Allied animal health professional" or "AAHP" means a professional who has
12 completed an approved allied animal health professional program and who offers
13 specialized, limited services to an animal patient in one (1) of the following areas:

14 (a) Animal chiropractic; or

15 (b) Equine dentistry;

16 (2) (a) "Allied animal health professional facility" or "AAHP facility" means any
17 building, fixed facility, place, premises, mobile facility, mobile unit, or
18 location from which the practice of allied animal health professionals on
19 animals are conducted or performed, including but not limited to a mobile
20 clinic or facility, outpatient clinic, emergency facility, specialty facility,
21 referral facility, human facility, or center.

22 (b) An AAHP facility includes all fixed buildings used in AAHP practice at a
23 single physical premises location.

24 (c) An AAHP facility does not include:

25 1. The premises of a client unless a fixed allied animal health
26 professional facility is located on the premises;

27 2. A research facility;

- 1 3. A federal military base;
- 2 4. Locations for temporary animal exhibition;
- 3 5. State or federal regulatory facilities; or
- 4 6. An approved allied animal health professional program location;
- 5 (3) "Allied animal health professional manager" or "AAHP manager" means at
6 least one (1) board-permitted AAHP who registers to assume responsibility for the
7 registration, management, and operation of a registered allied animal health
8 professional facility;
- 9 (4) "Allied animal health professional permit" or "AAHP permit" means a
10 credential issued to an allied animal health professional who is permitted by the
11 board to practice on animals in the Commonwealth under the provisions of this
12 chapter and administrative regulations promulgated under this chapter to
13 conduct specialized services for an animal patient limited to the scope of work as
14 defined in administrative regulation by the board;
- 15 (5) "Animal" means any member of the animal kingdom other than a human,
16 whether living or dead;
- 17 (6) "Animal shelter" means a public agency or private humane society, society for
18 the prevention of cruelty to animals, animal protection shelter or control agency,
19 or other facility that provides shelter and care for homeless, stray, unwanted, or
20 injured animals;
- 21 (7) "Applicant" means a person who submits an application for licensure,
22 certification, permit, or registration, whether complete or not, to the board;
- 23 (8) "Approved allied animal health professional program" means a school or
24 educational program offering specialized training to provide limited services to
25 an animal patient that has been approved by the board under standards
26 established by the board through the promulgation of an administrative
27 regulation;

- 1 (9) "Approved foreign equivalency program" means a school or educational
2 program that has been approved by the board under standards established by the
3 board through the promulgation of an administrative regulation, which offers
4 additional training and testing for persons who graduated from a non-board-
5 approved veterinary medical program or non-board-approved veterinary
6 technology program;
- 7 (10) "Approved program of continuing education" means an educational program
8 approved by the board or offered by an approved provider of continuing
9 education;
- 10 (11) "Approved provider of continuing education" means any person that has met the
11 requirements of the board to provide educational courses that are designed to
12 ensure continued competence in the practice of veterinary medicine, practice of
13 veterinary technology, animal euthanasia, or other area of practice governed by
14 the board under this chapter;
- 15 (12) "Approved veterinary medical program" means a school of veterinary medicine
16 or a veterinary medical education program that has been approved by the board
17 under standards established by the board through the promulgation of an
18 administrative regulation;
- 19 (13) "Approved veterinary technology program" means a school of veterinary
20 technology or a veterinary technology education program that has been approved
21 by the board under standards established by the board through the promulgation
22 of an administrative regulation;
- 23 (14) "Background check" means an inquiry within a system for the collection,
24 processing, preservation, or dissemination of criminal history records maintained
25 by one (1) or more local, state, or federal agencies;
- 26 (15) "Board" means the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners created under this
27 chapter;

- 1 (16) "Certificate holder" means a person certified by the board under this chapter;
- 2 (17) "Certified animal control agency" means an animal shelter that is certified by
3 the board under this chapter;
- 4 (18) "Certified animal euthanasia specialist" means a person employed by a certified
5 animal control agency who is authorized by the board under the provisions of this
6 chapter to humanely euthanize animals by administering drugs designated by the
7 board for euthanasia and sedation of animals for euthanasia on animals owned
8 by the certified animal control agency or animals in emergency care
9 circumstances;
- 10 (19) "Chemical restraint" means the use of any controlled substance, veterinary drug,
11 prescription, veterinary prescription drug, or legend drug that restrains or
12 tranquilizes the animal;
- 13 (20) "Client" means the owner, owner's agent, or other person presenting the patient
14 for care, who has entered into an agreement with a veterinarian or allied animal
15 health professional on behalf of a patient for the purposes of obtaining veterinary
16 medical services or allied animal health professional services in person or by any
17 means of communication or telehealth;
- 18 (21) "Compensation" includes any gift, bonus, fee, money, credit, or other thing of
19 value;
- 20 (22) "Complementary and alternative veterinary medicine therapies" means a
21 heterogeneous group of preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic philosophies and
22 practices that are not considered part of conventional veterinary medicine. These
23 therapies include but are not limited to:
- 24 (a) Veterinary acupuncture, acuthery, and acupressure;
- 25 (b) Veterinary homeopathy;
- 26 (c) Veterinary manual or manipulative therapy, such as therapies based on
27 techniques practiced in osteopathy, chiropractic medicine, or physical

1 medicine and therapy;

2 (d) Veterinary nutraceutical therapy; and

3 (e) Veterinary phytotherapy;

4 (23) "Consultation" means a veterinarian's receipt of advice, assistance in person, or
5 by any method of communication from a veterinarian or other person whose
6 expertise, in the opinion of the veterinarian, would benefit a patient while the
7 responsibility for the welfare of the patient remains with the veterinarian
8 receiving consultation;

9 (24) "Continuing education" means training that is designed to ensure continued
10 competence in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, or for
11 certified animal euthanasia specialists, permitted allied animal health
12 professionals, or any board credential holder;

13 (25) "Continuing education contact hour" means a fifty (50) minute clock hour of
14 instruction, not including breaks or meals;

15 (26) "Conviction" means a formal declaration that someone is guilty of a crime by a
16 court of competent jurisdiction and shall include a finding or verdict of guilt, an
17 admission of guilt, a no contest plea, a plea of nolo contendere, or a guilty plea;

18 (27) "Credential" means:

19 (a) Any license, certificate, permit, registration, or other credential issued or
20 approved by the board; or

21 (b) The authorization to serve as the veterinarian manager or registered
22 responsible party designated on a veterinary facility registration, as the
23 AAHP manager or registered responsible party designated on an AAHP
24 facility registration, or as the designated on-site manager designated for a
25 certified animal control agency;

26 (28) "Credential holder" means a person who holds an approved credential issued by
27 the board in accordance with this chapter, which may be one (1) or more of the

1 following:

2 (a) Certificate;

3 (b) License;

4 (c) Permit;

5 (d) Registration; or

6 (e) Special permit;

7 (29) "Designated on-site manager" means a person who registers with the board to
8 assume responsibility for the ordering, management, use, and disposal of
9 controlled substances at a board-certified animal control agency;

10 (30) "Discipline" means any final order, settlement agreement, reprimand, fine, or
11 other adverse consequence assessed against a person by the board or any of its
12 counterparts in other jurisdictions;

13 (31) "Embryo transfer" means to remove an embryo from any animal for the purpose
14 of transplanting the embryo into another animal or for the purpose of
15 cryopreserving the embryo, or to implant the embryo into any animal, including
16 food and companion animals;

17 (32) "Emergency care" means immediate treatment that is necessary to sustain life or
18 end suffering of an animal that is in a life-threatening condition;

19 (33) "Examination" means a qualifying examination approved by the board as a
20 condition for certification, licensure, permit, or registration;

21 (34) "Expired" is a licensure status whereby the credential holder failed to renew the
22 credential in a timely manner in accordance with the deadline set by the board
23 through the promulgation of an administrative regulation;

24 (35) "Extralabel use" means actual use or intended use of a drug in an animal in a
25 manner that is not in accordance with the approved labeling and includes but is
26 not limited to:

27 (a) Use in species or production class not listed in the labeling;

1 (b) Use for indications such as disease or other conditions not listed in the
2 labeling;

3 (c) Use at dosage levels, frequencies, or routes of administration other than
4 those stated in the labeling; and

5 (d) Deviation from the labeled withdrawal time based on these different uses;

6 (36) "Felony" means a criminal act as defined by any jurisdiction or by definition
7 under federal law;

8 (37) "Fixed facility" means a permanent location that is generally not moveable;

9 (38) "Grievance" or "complaint" means any allegation of misconduct that may
10 constitute a violation of this chapter or any administrative regulation
11 promulgated under the authority of this chapter;

12 (39) "Impaired" means that a credential holder, designated on-site manager,
13 veterinarian manager, or registered responsible party may reasonably be unable
14 to perform that person's duties with competence, skill, and safety because of a
15 physical or mental disability or incapacity, including deterioration of mental
16 capacity, loss of motor skills, or substance use or disorder of sufficient degree
17 which may reasonably diminish the person's ability to deliver competent patient
18 care;

19 (40) "In-person" means physically in the same physical space;

20 (41) "Informed consent" or "consent" means the veterinarian or allied animal health
21 professional permittee has informed the client or the client's authorized
22 representative in a manner understood by the client or the client's authorized
23 representative of the diagnostic and treatment options, potential outcomes, risk
24 assessment, prognosis, and options and the client has consented to or knowingly
25 declined the recommended services or treatment;

26 (42) "Jurisdiction" means:

27 (a) Any Commonwealth, state, or territory of the United States of America,

- 1 including the District of Columbia;
- 2 (b) Any province of Canada; or
- 3 (c) A regulatory organization, including an international body;
- 4 that issues licenses, registrations, permits, or certificates related to the
- 5 professional fields of veterinary medicine;
- 6 (43) "Licensee" means a person licensed by the board under this chapter;
- 7 (44) "Livestock" means bovines, equines, sheep, goats, swine, poultry, captured or
- 8 cultivated aquatic species, farm-raised cervidae and camelidae, bees, and any
- 9 other species used in the production of fiber, meat, eggs, honey, milk, and other
- 10 animal food products;
- 11 (45) "Mobile facility" or "mobile unit" means a motor vehicle that is utilized
- 12 pursuant to Section 16 of this Act;
- 13 (46) "Patient" means any animal or group of animals receiving care from a
- 14 veterinarian, veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, animal euthanasia
- 15 specialist, or allied animal health professional;
- 16 (47) "Permittee" means a person permitted by the board under this chapter;
- 17 (48) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, association, joint venture,
- 18 cooperative, corporation, governmental body, or any other group, legal entity, or
- 19 combination acting in concert, and whether or not acting as a principal, trustee,
- 20 fiduciary, receiver, or as any kind of legal or personal representative, or as the
- 21 successor in interest, assignee, agent, factor, servant, employee, director, officer,
- 22 or any other representative of the person;
- 23 (49) "Practice of veterinary medicine" means any person who practices veterinary
- 24 medicine when performing any one (1) or more of the following on an animal:
- 25 (a) Directly or indirectly diagnoses, prognoses, corrects, changes, relieves,
- 26 prevents, supervises, recommends, or performs medical or surgical
- 27 treatment, including complementary and alternative veterinary medicine

1 therapies, obstetrics, dentistry, oral surgery, acupuncture, laser therapy,
2 manipulation, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine,
3 for the diagnosis, prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, defect, deformity,
4 fracture, bodily injury, disease, or dental, physical, behavioral, or mental
5 condition;

6 (b) Prescribes, dispenses, or administers any drug, medicine, anesthetic,
7 biologic, appliance, apparatus, application, treatment, or other therapeutic
8 or diagnostic substance or technique for veterinary purposes, or performs
9 euthanasia, in accordance with the applicable federal statutes and
10 regulations governing controlled prescription drugs, legend drugs, and
11 veterinary drugs;

12 (c) Performs any manual procedure for the diagnosis, treatment, or both of
13 pregnancy, sterility, or infertility, including embryo transfer;

14 (d) Determines the health, fitness, or soundness of an animal;

15 (e) Represents oneself, directly or indirectly, as engaging in the practice of
16 veterinary medicine; or

17 (f) Uses any words, letters, or titles as to induce the belief that the individual
18 using them is authorized to practice veterinary medicine under this chapter
19 with such use being prima facie evidence of the intention to represent
20 oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine;

21 (50) "Practice of veterinary technology" means:

22 (a) The practices of veterinary technology when performing patient care,
23 professional medical care, monitoring, treatment, or other services on an
24 animal that require a technical understanding of veterinary medicine on the
25 basis of written or oral instruction of a board-licensed veterinarian, or
26 under supervision of a board-licensed veterinarian;

27 (b) Representation of oneself, directly or indirectly, as a licensed veterinary

1 technician or "LVT"; or

2 (c) Use of any words, letters, or titles under the circumstances that would
3 induce the belief that the individual using them is authorized to practice as
4 a veterinary technician under this chapter, with such use being prima facie
5 evidence of the intention to represent oneself as engaged in practice as a
6 board-licensed veterinary technician;

7 (51) "Premises" means any place where an animal is located when veterinary
8 medicine is being practiced;

9 (52) "Prescription" means an order for a drug or medicine, or combination or
10 mixture of drugs or medicines, or proprietary preparation, that is signed, given,
11 or authorized and intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment,
12 or prevention of disease in a patient;

13 (53) "Registrant" means a person or premises registered with the board under this
14 chapter;

15 (54) "Registered allied animal health professional facility" or "registered AAHP
16 facility" means an AAHP facility that is registered with the board under this
17 chapter;

18 (55) "Registered facility" means any AAHP facility or any veterinary facility that is
19 registered with the board under this chapter;

20 (56) "Registered responsible party" means at least one (1) person who:

21 (a) Does not otherwise hold a credential with the board who is designated as the
22 registered responsible party on a facility registration and is responsible for
23 its operation and management in conjunction with the veterinarian
24 manager or allied animal health professional; and

25 (b) Is held accountable to the board as a credential holder for any violation of
26 this chapter and its associated administrative regulations. At a minimum,
27 the registered party shall include all persons, owners, and corporate owners

1 of the registered veterinary facility or allied animal health professional
2 facility;

3 (57) "Registered veterinary facility" means a veterinary facility that is registered with
4 the board under this chapter;

5 (58) "Supervision" pertains to any of the following:

6 (a) "Supervising veterinarian" means a veterinarian who assumes
7 responsibility for the veterinary care given to a patient by an individual
8 working under the veterinarian's direction and has examined the patient
9 pursuant to currently acceptable standards of care;

10 (b) "Immediate supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is physically
11 in the immediate area and within audible and visual range of the patient
12 and the individual treating the patient;

13 (c) "Direct supervision" means the supervising veterinarian is readily available
14 on the premises where the patient is being treated; and

15 (d) "Indirect supervision" means the supervising veterinarian need not be on
16 the premises but has given either written or oral instructions for the
17 treatment of the patient and is readily available for communication;

18 (59) "Teleadvice" means the provision of any health information, opinion, guidance,
19 or recommendation concerning prudent future actions that are not specific to a
20 particular patient's health, illness, or injury;

21 (60) "Teleconsulting" means telehealth in which a veterinarian, veterinary
22 technician, AAHP, or other board credential holder uses telehealth tools to
23 communicate with a specialist or another professional to gain insights and advice
24 on the care of a patient;

25 (61) "Telehealth" means all uses of technology to remotely gather and deliver health
26 information, advice, education, and care;

27 (62) "Telemedicine" or "connected care" means the integration of digital

- 1 technologies to enhance and support the VCPR and facilitate proactive and
2 ongoing care through improved communication, diagnosis, and monitoring;
- 3 (63) "Telemonitoring," or "mHealth" or "mobile health," means remote monitoring
4 of a patient who is not at the same location as the health care provider;
- 5 (64) "Telesupervision" means the supervision of individuals using media such as
6 audio or audio/video conference, text messaging, and e-mail;
- 7 (65) "Triage" means the safe, appropriate, and timely assessment and
8 management of an animal patient via electronic consultation with its owner,
9 regardless of whether there is an immediate referral to a veterinarian and where
10 a diagnosis is not rendered;
- 11 (66) "Veterinarian" means an individual who is licensed to engage in the practice of
12 veterinary medicine under this chapter;
- 13 (67) "Veterinarian manager" means at least one (1) Kentucky-licensed veterinarian
14 who registers to assume responsibility for the registration, management, and
15 operation of a registered veterinary facility;
- 16 (68) "Veterinarian-client-patient relationship" or "VCPR" has the same meaning as
17 in Section 10 of this Act;
- 18 (69) "Veterinary assistant" means a layperson or noncredentialed holder who is
19 employed by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with Section 29 of this Act;
- 20 (70) (a) "Veterinary facility" means any building, fixed facility, place, premises,
21 mobile facility, or mobile unit location from which the practice of veterinary
22 medicine and practice of veterinary technology are conducted or performed,
23 including but not limited to a mobile clinic or facility, outpatient clinic,
24 veterinary hospital or clinic, emergency facility, specialty facility, referral
25 facility, or center, temporary health clinic or spay/neuter location. A
26 veterinary facility shall include all fixed buildings used for the practice of
27 veterinary medicine at a single physical premises location.

1 (b) "Veterinary facility" does not include:

2 1. The premises of a veterinary client unless a fixed veterinary facility is
3 located on the veterinary client's premises;

4 2. A research facility;

5 3. A federal military base;

6 4. Locations for temporary animal exhibition;

7 5. State or federal regulatory facilities;

8 6. Officially designated emergency and disaster response locations; or

9 7. An American Veterinary Medical Association-accredited college of
10 veterinary medicine or veterinary technology;

11 (71) "Veterinary specialist" means a veterinarian that has been awarded and
12 maintains certification from an American Veterinary Medical Association-
13 recognized veterinary specialty organization, program, or college, and is
14 registered in this specialty with the board;

15 (72) "Veterinary student" means:

16 (a) A person enrolled in an approved veterinary medical program while
17 pursuing a degree in veterinary medicine; or

18 (b) A person in a post-Doctor of Veterinary Medicine temporary private
19 internship, residency, or veterinary hospital-based program, not to exceed
20 thirty (30) days in a calendar year;

21 (73) "Veterinary technician" means a person who has completed an approved
22 veterinary technology program, is licensed in accordance with this chapter, and
23 meets the requirements in Section 28 of this Act;

24 (74) "Veterinary wellness committee" means a committee appointed by the board that
25 is composed of individuals who have expertise in the areas of alcohol abuse,
26 chemical dependence, drug abuse, or physical or mental condition designated by
27 the board to perform activities related to the veterinary wellness program; and

1 (75) "Veterinary wellness program" means the board-sponsored program for the
2 identification, intervention, and monitoring of credential holders or applicants
3 who may be impaired as a result of alcohol abuse, chemical dependence, drug
4 abuse, or any physical or mental condition.

5 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
6 READ AS FOLLOWS:

7 Within the context of veterinary practice:

8 (1) "Telehealth" has the same meaning as in Section 2 of this Act. Veterinary
9 telehealth is divided into categories based on who is involved in the
10 communication. For communication between veterinarians and other persons,
11 there are distinctions in practice related to whether a VCPR as defined in Section
12 10 of this Act has been established with the patient;

13 (2) (a) "Telemonitoring," or "mHealth" or "mobile health," has the same
14 meaning as in Section 2 of this Act. Some mHealth applications and
15 wearables are designed to augment animal health care within VCPRs, while
16 others are designed and marketed directly to consumers for their education
17 and for animal monitoring without clinical input and outside the context of
18 a VCPR.

19 (b) "Telesupervision" has the same meaning as in Section 2 of this Act;

20 (3) (a) Telehealth that provides the delivery of information specific to a particular
21 patient shall be called "telemedicine" or "connected care" and be
22 conducted within the context of an established VCPR to ensure protection
23 for the patient.

24 (b) "Telemedicine" or "connected care" has the same meaning as in Section 2
25 of this Act. It is an approach to veterinary practice that is patient- and
26 client-centered, and actively engages the entire veterinary healthcare team.
27 This type of telehealth involves use of one (1) or more tools to exchange

1 medical information electronically from one (1) site to another to improve a
2 patient's clinical health status, which may be utilized to augment the
3 practice of veterinary medicine. The appropriate application of connected
4 care or telemedicine can enhance animal care by facilitating
5 communication, diagnostics, treatments, client education, scheduling, and
6 other tasks.

7 (c) Practitioners providing telemedicine or connected care to patients in the
8 Commonwealth shall be credentialed to practice by the board and operate in
9 association with a registered veterinary facility or registered allied animal
10 health professional facility in Kentucky. Practitioners practicing this type
11 of telemedicine shall comply with all state and federal statutes and
12 regulations, including requirements for access to follow-up care.

13 (d) Connected care or telemedicine provided to patients in Kentucky shall only
14 be conducted within an existing VCPR as defined in Section 10 of this Act
15 and is required to be reestablished through an in-person visit every twelve
16 (12) months, with the exception of advice given in an emergency care
17 situation or teletriage until a patient can be seen by or transported to a
18 veterinarian. The VCPR for that twelve (12) months shall be deemed to
19 constitute a relationship in Kentucky, regardless of whether the patient or
20 client travels outside the Commonwealth; and

21 (4) Telehealth conducted without a VCPR may include only the delivery of general
22 advice, educational information, and teletriage. Telehealth which may be
23 conducted without a VCPR includes:

24 (a) Teleadvice as defined in Section 2 of this Act. This is general advice that is
25 not intended to diagnose, prognose, treat, correct, change, alleviate, or
26 prevent animal disease, illness, pain, deformity, defect, injury, or other
27 physical, dental, or mental conditions. If the practitioner providing the

1 teleadvice is a qualified veterinarian, veterinary technician, allied animal
2 health professional (AAHP), or other board credential holder, the
3 practitioner shall be required to hold a valid credential from the Kentucky
4 board, except as authorized by Section 14 of this Act, and shall comply with
5 all state and federal statutes and regulations;

6 **(b) Teleconsulting as defined in Section 2 of this Act. In teleconsulting, the**
7 **established VCPR remains with the veterinarian seeking advice or counsel;**

8 **(c) Triage as defined in Section 2 of this Act. In assessing patient condition**
9 **electronically, the assessor determines urgency and the need for immediate**
10 **referral to a veterinarian, based on the owner's or responsible party's report**
11 **of history and clinical signs, sometimes supplemented by visual information,**
12 **such as photographs or video; and**

13 **(d) Practitioners providing teleadvice and triage to patients in the**
14 **Commonwealth shall be credentialed to practice by the board in Kentucky,**
15 **shall comply with all state and federal statutes and regulations, and shall**
16 **disclose the practitioner's name and Kentucky credential number to the**
17 **person receiving services.**

18 ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
19 READ AS FOLLOWS:

20 **(1) Each veterinarian or allied animal health professional who provides medical**
21 **services to animals shall maintain accurate electronic or legibly written medical**
22 **records that include the identity of the credential holder or authorized**
23 **representative who makes the entry.**

24 **(2) The information in the medical records are the property of the client, and the**
25 **client has a right to a copy of those records. The practice where the records were**
26 **prepared shall be the official records custodian. Original patient records shall be**
27 **retained by the practice, veterinarian, or AAHP who prepared them and be**

1 readily retrievable for a period of five (5) years following the last patient
2 encounter. Records shall not be stored by a third party without a record of signed,
3 informed consent by the client. Records stored by a third party shall not relieve
4 the veterinarian or AAHP from the responsibility of supplying records to the
5 client upon request.

6 (3) (a) The veterinarian or AAHP may require that a request for medical records
7 be in writing and may charge a reasonable fee for copying or the staff time
8 in preparing the requested medical records, unless there is a board
9 investigation, in which case no charges shall be authorized.

10 (b) Copies of the medical records shall be provided to the client, designated
11 veterinarian, AAHP permittee, or authorized representative within seven (7)
12 calendar days after receipt of a proper request or sooner in accordance with
13 the patient's medical condition.

14 (c) Failure to provide the medical records in a timely fashion upon proper
15 request shall be considered unprofessional conduct.

16 (4) All records required by law to be kept by a veterinarian or AAHP shall be open to
17 inspection by the board or its authorized representatives, and a copy shall be
18 provided immediately upon request.

19 (5) All records shall comply with the requirements set forth by the board in
20 administrative regulations.

21 (6) An animal patient's medical record and medical condition is confidential and
22 may not be furnished to or discussed with any person other than the client or
23 other veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, veterinary
24 practice staff, AAHP permittees, or consultants involved in the care or treatment
25 of the patient, except upon authorization of the client or under the following
26 circumstances:

27 (a) Access to the records is specifically required by law, or as described in

- 1 Sections 10 and 11 of this Act;
2 (b) In response to a court order or subpoena with notice given to the client or
3 the client's legal representative;
4 (c) For statistical and scientific research, if the information is abstracted in a
5 way as to protect the identity of the patient and the client;
6 (d) As part of an inspection or investigation conducted by the board or an agent
7 of the board;
8 (e) To verify the rabies vaccination status of an animal;
9 (f) In the course of a consultation as defined in Section 2 of this Act; and
10 (g) As required by other state or federal law.

11 (7) A veterinarian or AAHP shall not intentionally create a false record, make a false
12 statement, or alter or modify any medical record, document, or report concerning
13 treatment of a patient. When correcting a medical record, the original content
14 should be readable, and the alteration shall be clearly identified with the
15 correction, reason for correction, date, and author's name.

16 ➔SECTION 5. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
17 READ AS FOLLOWS:

18 (1) Each person who is licensed as a veterinary technician shall submit a completed
19 renewal application by the renewal deadline and pay to the board an annual
20 renewal fee for the renewal of the person's license.

21 (2) A sixty (60) day grace period shall be allowed after the renewal deadline, during
22 which time individuals may renew their licenses upon submission of a completed
23 renewal application and payment of the renewal fee and a late fee to the board.
24 All licenses not renewed by the grace period deadline shall expire based on the
25 failure of the individual to renew in a timely manner. Upon expiration, the
26 veterinary technician licensee is no longer eligible to practice in the
27 Commonwealth.

- 1 (3) After the sixty (60) day grace period, individuals with an expired veterinary
2 technician license may have their licenses reinstated upon submission of a
3 completed reinstatement application and payment of a reinstatement fee to the
4 board. No person who applies for reinstatement after expiration of the person's
5 license shall be required to submit to an examination as a condition for
6 reinstatement if a reinstatement application is made within five (5) years from the
7 date of expiration.
- 8 (4) A suspended license is subject to expiration and termination and shall be renewed
9 as provided in this chapter. Renewal or reinstatement shall not entitle the licensee
10 to engage in the practice until the suspension has ended or is otherwise removed
11 by the board and the right to practice is restored by the board.
- 12 (5) A revoked license is subject to expiration or termination but may not be renewed.
13 If it is reinstated, the licensee shall pay the reinstatement fee.
- 14 (6) A person who fails to reinstate a license within five (5) years after its expiration
15 or termination may not have it renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated. A
16 person may apply for and obtain a new license by meeting the requirements of
17 this chapter.
- 18 (7) The board may require that a person applying for renewal or reinstatement of
19 licensure show evidence of completion of continuing education as established in
20 administrative regulations promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A by
21 the board.
- 22 (8) The board may grant retired or inactive licensure status and may establish
23 conditions under which retired or inactive licenses may be renewed as established
24 in administrative regulations promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A
25 by the board.

26 ➔SECTION 6. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
27 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 (1) Each person who is certified as an animal euthanasia specialist shall submit a
2 complete renewal application by the renewal deadline and pay to the board an
3 annual renewal fee for the renewal of the person's certificate.
- 4 (2) Each animal shelter that is certified as an animal control agency shall submit a
5 completed renewal application by the renewal deadline and pay to the board an
6 annual renewal fee for the renewal of the animal control agency certificate.
- 7 (3) A sixty (60) day grace period shall be allowed after the renewal deadline, during
8 which time individuals and agencies may renew their certificates upon
9 submission of a completed application, and payment of the renewal fee and a late
10 fee to the board. Any certificate that was not renewed by the grace period
11 deadline shall expire. Upon expiration, the holder of that certificate is no longer
12 eligible to practice animal euthanasia in the Commonwealth or maintain a
13 United States Drug Enforcement Administration controlled substances
14 registration.
- 15 (4) After the sixty (60) day grace period, individuals and agencies with an expired
16 certificate may have their certificates reinstated upon submission of a completed
17 reinstatement application and payment of a reinstatement fee to the board if the
18 reinstatement application is made within five (5) years from the date of
19 expiration. Animal control agencies may be subject to inspection prior to
20 reinstatement.
- 21 (5) A suspended certificate is subject to expiration and termination and shall be
22 renewed as provided in this chapter. Renewal or reinstatement shall not entitle
23 the certificate holder to engage in the practice until the suspension has ended or
24 is otherwise removed by the board and the right to practice is restored by the
25 board.
- 26 (6) A revoked certificate is subject to expiration or termination but may not be
27 renewed. If it is reinstated, the certificate holder shall pay the reinstatement fee.

1 (7) A person or agency that fails to reinstate its certificate within five (5) years after
2 its expiration or termination shall not have it renewed, restored, reissued, or
3 reinstated. A person or agency may apply for and obtain a new certificate by
4 meeting the requirements of this chapter.

5 (8) The board may require that a person or agency applying for renewal or
6 reinstatement of the certificate show evidence of completion of additional training
7 or continuing education as promulgated in administrative regulation by the
8 board.

9 (9) The board may grant retired or inactive certificate status for certified animal
10 euthanasia specialists and may establish conditions under which retired or
11 inactive certificates may be renewed as set forth by administrative regulations
12 promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A by the board.

13 (10) The board shall require any applicant seeking to become registered as the
14 designated on-site manager for an animal control agency to submit to a criminal
15 background investigation conducted in accordance with Section 7 of this Act.

16 ➔SECTION 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
17 READ AS FOLLOWS:

18 The board shall require a national and state criminal background investigation for
19 every applicant seeking a license, certificate, registration, or permit issued by the board
20 permitting the applicant to engage in a veterinary practice or activity regulated by the
21 board. The criminal background investigation shall be by means of a fingerprint check
22 by the Department of Kentucky State Police or equivalent state police body in the
23 applicant's home state and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pursuant to the
24 following requirements:

25 (1) The applicant shall provide his or her fingerprints to the Department of Kentucky
26 State Police, or equivalent state police body in the applicant's home state, for
27 submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation after a state criminal

1 background check is conducted;

2 (2) The results of the national and state criminal background check shall be sent to
3 the board for the screening of applicants;

4 (3) The board shall be prohibited from releasing any criminal history record
5 information to any private entity or other licensing board, or authorizing receipt
6 by such entity or board; and

7 (4) Any fee charged by the Department of Kentucky State Police or the Federal
8 Bureau of Investigation shall be an amount no greater than the actual cost of
9 processing the request and conducting the background check. The board may
10 charge this fee to the applicant for licensure or certification.

11 ➔SECTION 8. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
12 READ AS FOLLOWS:

13 (1) The board may promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS
14 Chapter 13A defining:

15 (a) Application, renewal, and reinstatement requirements and fees for
16 veterinary facilities and AAHP facilities;

17 (b) Responsibilities and limitations for registered responsible parties,
18 veterinarian managers, and AAHP managers. This shall include an
19 administrative regulation governing interference or control by unlicensed
20 persons in the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology, or
21 by persons who do not hold a board credential. Both registered responsible
22 parties and veterinarian managers shall be responsible for a registered
23 veterinary facility's operation and management, and both registered
24 responsible parties and AAHP managers shall be responsible for a
25 registered AAHP facility. Both parties associated with a registered facility
26 shall be held accountable to the board as a credential holder for any
27 violation of this chapter; and

- 1 (c) Minimum standards for veterinary facilities, mobile facilities, and AAHP
2 facilities, including requirements for application, inspection, sanitation, and
3 other factors.
- 4 (2) (a) All existing veterinary facilities and AAHP facilities, both fixed and mobile,
5 shall be registered with the board not later than June 30, 2025.
- 6 (b) The board shall charge a minimum fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) per
7 initial registration and for each subsequent biennial renewal of the
8 registration.
- 9 (c) The board shall not charge an initial or renewal fee of more than two
10 hundred dollars (\$200) if the excess amount over two hundred dollars
11 (\$200) exceeds the cost to run the registration program.
- 12 (d) Notwithstanding paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection, the initial
13 registration fee shall be reduced by half for initial registrations filed with
14 the board by June 30, 2025.
- 15 (3) (a) After June 30, 2025, all new facilities shall submit a completed application
16 for registration to the board, including fees as promulgated by the board in
17 administrative regulation.
- 18 (b) A new veterinary facility or AAHP facility shall not begin operation in the
19 Commonwealth until the completed application and fee have been accepted
20 by the board and notification in writing has been sent to the applicant.
- 21 (c) After the registration deadline in 2025, each new registered facility may be
22 inspected by the board to verify that the facility is an operational veterinary
23 facility or AAHP facility within the first one hundred twenty (120) days of
24 operation.
- 25 (4) A mobile facility that is affiliated with a registered veterinary facility or AAHP
26 facility shall be exempted from the requirement to register independently if a
27 currently registered fixed facility identifies that unit as its affiliate. The board

1 may charge additional registration fees to a registered veterinary facility or
2 AAHP facility based upon the number of registered mobile units associated with
3 a single facility registration through the promulgation of an administrative
4 regulation in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A.

5 (5) Each application to register a veterinary facility or an AAHP facility shall meet
6 the minimum requirements established by this chapter and the board in an
7 administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A and
8 identify the following persons responsible for its operation and management:

9 (a) The registered responsible party;

10 (b) The veterinarian manager, if a veterinary facility; or

11 (c) The AAHP manager, if an AAHP facility.

12 (6) (a) The veterinarian manager shall include at least one (1) Kentucky-licensed
13 veterinarian with an active license in good standing with the board.

14 (b) The AAHP manager shall include at least one (1) Kentucky-permitted
15 AAHP with an active permit in good standing with the board.

16 (7) (a) The veterinarian manager and the registered responsible party are
17 responsible for notifying the board of any change in the veterinarian
18 manager's or registered responsible party's association with the veterinary
19 facility.

20 (b) The AAHP manager and the registered responsible party are responsible for
21 notifying the board of any change in the allied animal health professional's
22 or registered responsible party's association with the AAHP facility.

23 (8) An application for registration renewal shall be completed and submitted to the
24 board periodically after the initial registration deadline in 2025, in accordance
25 with Section 9 of this Act and as defined in administrative regulations
26 promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A by the board.

27 (9) The board may conduct voluntary inspections in accordance with the following:

- 1 (a) Veterinary facilities and AAHP facilities shall be provided an option to
2 conduct a self-inspection at the facility and may consult with the board or
3 request a board inspection to ensure the facility is meeting minimum
4 standards, as established by the board in administrative regulations;
- 5 (b) The board may charge a fee for in person consultations and inspections as
6 established by the board in administrative regulation promulgated in
7 accordance with KRS Chapter 13A;
- 8 (c) Voluntary consultations or inspections by the board shall not trigger a
9 notice to comply or a notice of violation for deficiencies. Nothing in this
10 paragraph shall be construed to limit the board from filing a grievance
11 based upon a significant violation impacting public health, safety, and
12 welfare, and animal health;
- 13 (d) Each registered facility that passes a voluntary, in-person inspection by the
14 board, according to standards established by the board in administrative
15 regulation, shall receive a certificate of inspection from the board for
16 display in the registered facility;
- 17 (e) Inspections of mobile units shall not extend into a registrant's private
18 residence; and
- 19 (f) This subsection shall not prevent the board from conducting inspections at
20 or implementing disciplinary action against a registered facility in response
21 to a complaint, grievance, or upon a suspected violation of this chapter.
- 22 (10) The board may revoke, suspend, or take other disciplinary action deemed
23 appropriate against the registration, including ordering closure of the veterinary
24 facility or AAHP facility, in accordance with Sections 25 and 26 of this Act on
25 any of the following grounds:
- 26 (a) The board or its agents are denied access to conduct an inspection or
27 investigation;

- 1 (b) The holder of a registration does not pay all prescribed fees or monetary
2 penalties;
- 3 (c) There is no veterinarian manager or AAHP manager identified within the
4 timeframes set by this chapter;
- 5 (d) Registered responsible parties are interfering with, exercising control over,
6 or attempting to influence the professional judgment of a board credential
7 holder in any manner;
- 8 (e) Failure to comply with minimum standards defined in administrative
9 regulation by the board for the veterinary facility or AAHP facility; or
- 10 (f) Failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or administrative
11 regulations promulgated under this chapter.
- 12 (11) The board may require any veterinarian manager applicant, AAHP manager
13 applicant, or registered responsible party applicant to submit to a criminal
14 background investigation conducted in accordance with Section 7 of this Act.
- 15 ➔SECTION 9. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
16 READ AS FOLLOWS:
- 17 (1) Each veterinary facility and allied animal health professional facility registered
18 with the board shall submit a completed renewal application by the renewal
19 deadline and pay a biennial renewal fee for the renewal of the registration.
- 20 (2) A veterinary facility or AAHP facility with an expired registration may have its
21 registration reinstated upon submission of a completed reinstatement application
22 and payment of a reinstatement fee to the board.
- 23 (3) A suspended veterinary facility registration or AAHP facility registration is
24 subject to expiration and termination and shall be renewed as provided in this
25 chapter. Renewal or reinstatement shall not entitle the registrant to allow the
26 practice of veterinary medicine or AAHP practice on the premises or from the
27 mobile facility until the suspension has ended or is otherwise removed by the

- 1 board and the right to operate or practice is restored by the board.
- 2 (4) A revoked registration is subject to expiration or termination but may not be
 3 renewed. If it is reinstated, the registration holder shall pay the reinstatement fee
 4 to the board.
- 5 (5) A veterinary facility or AAHP facility that fails to reinstate its registration within
 6 five (5) years after its expiration or termination shall not have it renewed,
 7 restored, reissued, or reinstated. A veterinary facility or AAHP facility may apply
 8 for and obtain a new registration by meeting the requirements of this chapter.
- 9 (6) The board may require that a veterinary facility or AAHP facility applying for
 10 renewal or reinstatement of registration show evidence of completion of
 11 continuing education by the veterinarian manager, AAHP manager, or registered
 12 responsible party as prescribed by administrative regulation of the board.

13 ➔Section 10. KRS 321.185 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) In order for a veterinarian to practice veterinary medicine, a relationship among the
 15 veterinarian, the client, and the patient shall be established and maintained. The
 16 "veterinarian-client-patient relationship" or "VCPR" is the basis for veterinary
 17 care and means that:

18 (a) The veterinarian and the client or other caretaker of the patient both agree
 19 for the veterinarian to assume~~[has assumed the]~~ responsibility for making
 20 medical judgments regarding the health of the animal~~[and the need for~~
 21 ~~veterinary treatment, and the client, whether owner or other caretaker, has~~
 22 ~~agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian];~~

23 (b) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal by the veterinarian to initiate at
 24 least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the
 25 animal. This means that within the previous twelve (12) months the
 26 veterinarian either physically examined the animal or made a medically
 27 appropriate in-person visit~~[has recently seen and is personally acquainted~~

1 with the keeping and care of the animal by virtue of an examination of the
2 animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits] to the premises where
3 the animal is kept; and

4 (c) The~~[-practicing]~~ veterinarian **has assumed responsibility for providing**
5 **follow-up care and continuation of care to the patient, except in cases where**
6 **the veterinarian:**

7 **1. Has arranged for or contracted for emergency care or urgent care**
8 **coverage by another veterinarian who can provide reasonable and**
9 **appropriate medical care and has notified the client how to access**
10 **emergency care; or**

11 **2. Has notified the client of an available registered facility that can**
12 **provide reasonable and appropriate medical care**~~[is readily available or~~
13 ~~shall provide medical service for follow up in case of adverse reactions~~
14 ~~or failure of the regimen of therapy. A new regimen of therapy shall be~~
15 ~~contingent only upon cooperation of the client and availability of the~~
16 ~~subject animal].~~

17 (2) **The VCPR may extend to another veterinarian employed in the same registered**
18 **facility who is licensed to practice veterinary medicine within the Commonwealth,**
19 **so long as the other Kentucky-licensed veterinarian has sufficient knowledge in**
20 **the medical record to make a decision.**

21 **(3)** The veterinarian shall maintain records ~~that~~~~[which]~~ document patient visits,
22 diagnosis, treatment, and other relevant information, **as required by Section 4 of**
23 **this Act.**

24 ~~(4)~~~~[(3)]~~ (a) A veterinarian shall not violate the confidential relationship between the
25 veterinarian and the veterinarian's client, **Consultation by the veterinarian**
26 **with another veterinarian or professional expert for the benefit of the**
27 **patient shall not constitute a violation of confidentiality.**

- 1 (b) A veterinarian shall not release information concerning a client or care of a
2 client's animal, except:
- 3 1. On the veterinarian's receipt of:
- 4 a. A written authorization or other form of waiver executed by the
5 client; or
- 6 b. An appropriate court order or subpoena;~~or~~
- 7 2. In cases of animal abuse, pursuant to KRS 321.188;
- 8 **3. In cases of reportable diseases as they relate to public or animal**
9 **health pursuant to KRS 257.080 and 258.065 and the administrative**
10 **regulations promulgated under the authority of those statutes;**
- 11 **4. Other exceptions established in Sections 4 and 14 of this Act; or**
12 **5. Upon request from the board.**
- 13 (c) A veterinarian who releases information under paragraph (b) of this
14 subsection shall not be liable to any person, including the client, for an action
15 resulting from the disclosure.
- 16 (d) The privilege provided by this subsection is waived by the client or the owner
17 of an animal treated by the veterinarian to the extent the client or owner places
18 at issue in a civil or criminal proceeding:
- 19 1. The nature and extent of the animal's injuries; or
- 20 2. The care and treatment of the animal provided by the veterinarian.
- 21 (e) This subsection shall not apply to:
- 22 1. An inspection or investigation conducted by the board or an agent of the
23 board; or
- 24 2. The veterinary reporting requirements and regulatory authority of the
25 Kentucky Horse Racing Commission to inspect, investigate, and
26 supervise horses and other participants in horse racing as provided by
27 KRS Chapter 230 and the administrative regulations promulgated under

1 KRS Chapter 230, or any other state or federal law applicable to the
2 regulation of horse racing in the Commonwealth.

3 ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ Veterinarians providing copies of records under this section may charge no
4 more than the actual cost of copying, including reasonable staff time.

5 **(6) A licensed veterinarian who in good faith engages in the practice of veterinary**
6 **medicine by rendering or attempting to render emergency care or urgent care to**
7 **an animal when a client cannot be identified shall not be subject to penalty based**
8 **solely on the veterinarian's inability to establish a VCPR with an owner or the**
9 **owner's representative.**

10 **(7) A VCPR shall not be established solely by telehealth means. In the absence of a**
11 **VCPR, any advice provided through telehealth shall be general and not specific**
12 **to a patient, diagnosis, or treatment. Veterinary telemedicine shall only be**
13 **conducted within an existing VCPR, with the exception for advice given in an**
14 **emergency care situation until that patient can be seen in person by a licensed**
15 **veterinarian.**

16 ➔Section 11. KRS 321.188 is amended to read as follows:

17 If a veterinarian finds that an animal with which the veterinarian~~he or she~~ has a
18 VCPR~~veterinarian-client-patient-relationship~~ has been abused in violation of KRS
19 525.125, 525.130, 525.135, or 525.137, the veterinarian may make a report to:

- 20 (1) The Office of the State Veterinarian for any animal for which an on-farm livestock
21 or poultry care standard has been promulgated under KRS 257.196; or
22 (2) Law enforcement for any other animal.

23 ➔SECTION 12. KRS 321.190 IS REPEALED AND REENACTED TO READ
24 AS FOLLOWS:

25 **(1) The practice of veterinary medicine and the practice of veterinary technology in**
26 **the Commonwealth are subject to enforcement by the board. Except as otherwise**
27 **provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the**

1 practice of veterinary medicine or the practice of veterinary technology in the
2 Commonwealth through any means unless licensed under the applicable
3 provisions of this chapter, except as provided in Sections 14 and 29 of this Act.

4 (2) (a) A person shall not use the designation "veterinarian," "licensed
5 veterinarian," or any other designation indicating licensure status,
6 including abbreviations, or hold that person out as a veterinarian unless
7 licensed for that profession.

8 (b) A person shall not use the designation "veterinary technician," "licensed
9 veterinary technician," or any other designation indicating licensure status,
10 including abbreviations, or hold that person out as a veterinary technician
11 unless licensed for that profession.

12 (3) The practice of veterinary medicine by telephonic, videoconference, telehealth, or
13 other means shall constitute the practice of veterinary medicine subject to
14 licensure and enforcement by the board.

15 (4) A veterinarian shall utilize the services of a licensed veterinary technician or
16 veterinary assistant in accordance with this chapter and the administrative
17 regulations promulgated under the authority of this chapter. Unauthorized
18 utilization of any person's services in violation of this chapter shall be considered
19 as aiding and abetting any unlicensed person to practice veterinary medicine as
20 described in Section 25 of this Act.

21 (5) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent members of other
22 professions from performing functions for which they are credentialed by the
23 board and that is within their defined scope of practice. However, these persons
24 shall not hold themselves out or refer to themselves by any title or description
25 stating or implying that they are licensed or otherwise entitled to engage in the
26 practice of veterinary medicine or the practice of veterinary technology.

27 (6) Except as authorized by Section 14 of this Act, nothing in this chapter shall be

1 construed to permit any person who is not a veterinarian to perform any of the
 2 following activities relating to animals:

3 (a) Surgery;

4 (b) Diagnosis;

5 (c) Prognosis; and

6 (d) Prescription.

7 (7) A supervising veterinarian is individually and separately responsible and liable
 8 for the performance of the acts delegated to and the omissions of the licensed
 9 veterinary technician, veterinary assistant, special permittee, intern, preceptor,
 10 resident, or any other individual working under the veterinarian's supervision.
 11 Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve licensed veterinary
 12 technicians, veterinary assistants, special permittees, interns, preceptors,
 13 residents, or any other individuals working under supervision of any
 14 responsibility or liability for any of their own acts or omissions.

15 (8) Unless exempted by Section 14 of this Act, persons engaging in the practice of
 16 veterinary medicine or the practice of veterinary technology without a credential
 17 from the board shall be subject to enforcement and discipline by the board as
 18 established in Sections 30 and 31 of this Act.

19 ➔Section 13. KRS 321.193 is amended to read as follows:

20 The board shall issue a license as a "veterinarian" to an applicant who meets the
 21 following requirements:

22 (1) Has completed an application for licensure approved by the board in
 23 administrative regulation;

24 (2) Has paid the application fee and the appropriate examination fee;

25 ~~(3)~~ (2) Is a person of good moral character. As one (1) element of good moral
 26 character, the board shall require each applicant for licensure to submit a full set
 27 of the applicant's fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining criminal records

1 checks, pursuant to applicable law. All good moral character information,
 2 including the information obtained through the criminal background checks,
 3 shall be relevant to licensure eligibility determinations to the extent permitted by
 4 law;

5 ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~ Has graduated and received a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine or
 6 equivalent degree in veterinary medicine from a board-approved veterinary
 7 medical program~~[Has received a degree from a veterinary college approved by the~~
 8 ~~board];~~

9 ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ Has achieved a passing score~~[, as set by the board by administrative~~
 10 ~~regulation,]~~ on examinations required by administrative regulation promulgated by
 11 the board;~~[and]~~

12 **(6) Has been approved for licensure by the board; and**

13 ~~(7)~~~~(5)~~ Has complied with any other requirements of this chapter or~~[requirement]~~ of
 14 the board by administrative regulation.

15 ➔Section 14. KRS 321.200 is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any of the following:

17 (a) Any persons from gratuitously treating animals in cases of emergency care,
 18 provided they do not use the word "veterinarian," "veterinary," "veterinary
 19 technician," "veterinary nurse," or any title, words, abbreviation, or letters
 20 in a manner or under circumstances which may induce the belief that the
 21 person using them is qualified to engage in the practice of veterinary
 22 medicine or the practice of veterinary technology as described in KRS
 23 321.181~~(5)~~;

24 (b) The owner of any animal or animals and the owner's full-time, or part-time,
 25 regular employees from caring for and treating, including administering drugs
 26 that are obtained and used in accordance with applicable state and federal
 27 statutes and regulations to, any animals belonging to the owner. With the

1 exception of paragraph (c) of this subsection and other limiting statutes,
 2 treatment shall not include surgery.

3 1. Transfer of ownership, ~~or~~ a temporary contract, or a temporary
 4 change in a person's employment status shall not be used for the
 5 purpose of circumventing this provision.

6 2. This provision shall not exempt an employee who would otherwise
 7 qualify for a board credential from the credentialing requirements of
 8 this chapter based on the employment status;

9 (c) Any person from castrating and dehorning food animals ~~and dehorning~~
 10 ~~eattle~~, as long as any drugs or medications are obtained and used in
 11 accordance with applicable state and federal statutes and regulations
 12 governing controlled substances, ~~and~~ legend drugs, and veterinary drugs;

13 (d) Any veterinary student as defined in KRS 321.181 from working under the
 14 direct supervision of a veterinarian who is ~~duly~~ licensed under this
 15 chapter ~~the laws of this Commonwealth~~;

16 (e) Unlicensed ~~Nonlicensed~~ graduate veterinarians in the United States Armed
 17 Services or employees of the United States Department of Agriculture,
 18 Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, from engaging ~~of the United~~
 19 ~~States Department of Agriculture or the Kentucky Department of Agriculture,~~
 20 ~~Division of Animal Health while engaged~~ in the performance of their official
 21 duties ~~, or other lawfully qualified veterinarians residing in other states, from~~
 22 ~~meeting licensed veterinarians of this Commonwealth in consultation~~;

23 (f) Other lawfully qualified veterinarians who reside in and are licensed in
 24 other jurisdictions from discussing or meeting, either in person or via
 25 telehealth, with licensed veterinarians of this Commonwealth in
 26 consultation about a patient so long as the Kentucky-licensed veterinarian
 27 has established and maintains a current VCPR with the patient;

1 **(g)** A trainer, sales agent, or herdsman from caring for animals, upon instruction
2 from a Kentucky-licensed veterinarian, provided there is a **current**
3 **VCPR**~~[veterinary-client-patient relationship]~~, as defined in KRS 321.185;

4 **(h)**~~(g)~~ A university faculty member from teaching veterinary science or related
5 courses, or a faculty member or staff member from engaging in veterinary
6 research **through or on behalf of the university where the person is**
7 **employed**, including drug and drug testing research, provided that research is
8 conducted in accordance with applicable **state and** federal statutes and
9 regulations governing controlled **substances, prescription drugs, veterinary**
10 **drugs**, and legend drugs. **This provision shall not exempt the university**
11 **faculty member from the requirements of licensure if the faculty member**
12 **engages in the practice of veterinary medicine outside the authority of the**
13 **university or the faculty member's scope of employment with the university**
14 **or engages in the private practice of veterinary medicine for personal gain;**

15 **(i)**~~(h)~~ Any person who holds a postgraduate degree in reproductive physiology
16 or a related field, and who has performed embryo transfers in Kentucky
17 during the five (5) years immediately preceding July 14, 1992, from
18 performing embryo transfers **on animals;**

19 **(j)**~~(i)~~ Volunteer health practitioners providing services under KRS 39A.350 to
20 39A.366;~~or~~

21 **(k)**~~(j)~~ A retailer or its agent from providing information and suggestions
22 regarding the over-the-counter products it sells to treat animals so long as the
23 information and suggestions are consistent with the product label **and species**
24 **appropriate;**

25 **(l)** **A Kentucky-licensed veterinarian from inspecting an animal, or an**
26 **animal's radiographs or other medical records, on behalf of a potential**
27 **buyer or potential seller, without regard to the existence of a VCPR;**

1 (m) Any persons from implanting a microchip in an animal for the purposes of
 2 identification or the establishment of ownership;

3 (n) A veterinarian who is licensed in another United States or Canadian
 4 jurisdiction, and is in good standing in that jurisdiction, and meets all
 5 criteria for licensure in Kentucky, and who has an active application on file
 6 with the board pending for less than ninety (90) days, from working as a
 7 veterinarian in Kentucky under the supervision of a Kentucky-licensed
 8 veterinarian while the board application for licensure is being processed, so
 9 long as the place of employment, start date, contact information where the
 10 applicant works, and a supervising veterinarian are disclosed in the
 11 application;

12 (o) Allied animal health professional permittees who are working within the
 13 scope of the permit; or

14 (p) Board-certified animal euthanasia specialists who are working within the
 15 scope of their certificate.

16 (2) (a) An unlicensed veterinarian who does not qualify for licensure in Kentucky
 17 and who is a nonresident of the United States may be employed in this
 18 Commonwealth^[state] to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine for
 19 not more than thirty (30) days in a calendar^[of each] year, provided the
 20 person^[he or she]:

- 21 1. Holds a valid, current license as a veterinarian in the person's^{[his or}
 22 ^{her]} home country;
- 23 2. Practices under the direct supervision of a veterinarian licensed in
 24 Kentucky;
- 25 3. Registers with the board prior to commencing practice in the
 26 Commonwealth^[state]; and
- 27 4. Agrees to practice and follow all the rules and administrative regulations

1 of this chapter and be subject to discipline for violations of those rules
 2 and administrative regulations by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary
 3 Examiners.

4 (b) This subsection shall not apply to a nonresident of the United States who is
 5 otherwise eligible for a Kentucky license **or other credential** under this
 6 chapter.

7 (3) Nothing in this chapter shall interfere with the professional activities of any
 8 licensed pharmacist.

9 ➔Section 15. KRS 321.201 is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) The board may issue a special permit to practice veterinary medicine to **an**
 11 **unlicensed**~~[a nonlicensed]~~ veterinarian who is a qualified applicant to become a
 12 licensed veterinarian **and who is awaiting the pending results of a board-approved**
 13 **national examination or the final examination stage of a board-approved foreign**
 14 **education equivalency program.**~~[by examination,]~~

15 **(2) Individuals seeking to obtain a special permit shall apply to the board for**
 16 **licensure** and **shall be**~~[who is]~~ employed by and **working** under the direct
 17 supervision of a Kentucky~~[-]~~ licensed veterinarian. **The application shall include a**
 18 **letter of recommendation and acknowledgement of supervisory responsibilities**
 19 **and shall be signed by each supervising licensed veterinarian.**

20 **(3)** The special permit shall **not** be issued **until**~~[after]~~ the application has been
 21 **submitted**~~[made]~~ to take the next examination given by **a board-approved**
 22 **examination provider**~~[the board and the required fees paid. A letter of~~
 23 ~~recommendation from the supervising licensed veterinarian shall be submitted with~~
 24 ~~the application].~~

25 **(4)** The special permit shall expire **seven (7) business days**~~[the day]~~ after the notice of
 26 results of the first examination given after the permit was issued.

27 **(5)**~~[(2)]~~ A special permit **holder** may be subject to the disciplinary procedures as set

1 forth in KRS 321.351.

2 **(6) If the special permit holder does not pass an examination attempt, the person may**
 3 **apply for and obtain a new special permit for subsequent examination attempts.**
 4 **The board shall not issue any individual person more than a total of four (4)**
 5 **special permits.**

6 ➔Section 16. KRS 321.205 is amended to read as follows:

7 **(1) A credential holder**~~[veterinarian]~~ **may utilize a "mobile facility" or "mobile unit"**
 8 **to conduct business within the scope allowable by their board-issued credential.**

9 **(2) The mobile facility shall be registered under a current facility registration with**
 10 **the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners in accordance with Sections 8 and**
 11 **9 of this Act and the administrative regulations promulgated under the authority**
 12 **of this chapter.**

13 **(3) The mobile facility and its operators shall comply with all applicable local, state,**
 14 **and federal laws.**

15 **(4) The mobile facility may:**

16 ~~(a)(1)~~ Make farm or house calls in a motor vehicle or utilize a motor vehicle
 17 equipped with special medical or surgical equipment **appropriate for the**
 18 **species-specific services offered** if the **credential holder**~~[veterinarian]~~ has a
 19 permanent base of operations with a published address and telephone number~~[~~
 20 ~~recorded with the board]~~ where the **credential holder**~~[veterinarian]~~ may be
 21 contacted. **The published contact information shall be on file with the**
 22 **board;**

23 ~~(b)(2)~~ Apply the principles of environmental sanitation, food inspection,
 24 animal nutrition, artificial insemination, environmental pollution control,
 25 zoonotic disease control, and disaster medicine in the promotion and
 26 protection of public **and animal** health **in accordance with administrative**
 27 **regulations promulgated under this chapter;** and

1 ~~(c)(3)~~ Engage in the collection of hazardous biological specimens and the use
 2 of vaccine which may be injurious to humans, in accordance with applicable
 3 **state and** federal statutes and regulations.

4 ➔ Section 17. KRS 321.207 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) (a) The **Kentucky** Board of Veterinary Examiners, upon submission of a
 6 complete application and payment of a fee established by the board, shall
 7 issue to any **certified** animal control agency that it determines to be qualified,
 8 **an** authorization to apply to the **United States**~~[federal]~~ Drug Enforcement
 9 **Administration (DEA)**~~[Agency, including any successor entity,]~~ for a
 10 **controlled substance registration**~~[restricted controlled substance registration~~
 11 ~~certificate]~~ for the purchase, possession, **storage**, and **administration**~~[use]~~ of
 12 **the specific**~~[sodium pentobarbital or other]~~ drugs **approved**~~[as authorized]~~ by
 13 the board~~[for administration by a certified animal euthanasia specialist]~~ to
 14 euthanize **or sedate animals for euthanasia for animals owned by the board-**
 15 **certified animal control agency, or in the case of emergency care related to**
 16 injured, sick, or abandoned animals.

17 (b) **A certified animal control agency that successfully obtains a DEA**
 18 **controlled substance registration shall comply with all state and federal**
 19 **laws related to the ordering, purchase, storage, tracking, management, and**
 20 **disposal of the drugs obtained under the controlled substance registration.**

21 (c) **A certified animal control agency shall comply with certification renewal**
 22 **requirements as set forth in Section 4 of this Act or the certificate shall**
 23 **expire.**

24 (2) **A certified animal control agency**~~[To satisfy the board's authorization, the~~
 25 ~~applicant]~~ shall comply with administrative regulations promulgated by the board
 26 which contain standards for proper storage and handling of the drugs the board has
 27 **approved**~~[authorized]~~ for **this** use, and any other provisions as may be necessary to

1 ensure that the drugs are used safely and solely for the purpose set forth in this
2 section.

3 (3) (a) A certified animal control agency shall submit to periodic inspections by the
4 board or its authorized representatives to ensure compliance with DEA
5 controlled substance registration and board requirements;

6 (b) An applicant for certification as a certified animal control agency shall
7 submit to an inspection by the board or its authorized representatives prior
8 to certification by the board to ensure adequate security for controlled
9 substances storage; and

10 (c) A previously certified animal control agency with an expired certificate
11 shall submit to inspections by the board or its authorized representatives to
12 ensure proper log updates, removal, and disposal of all drugs obtained
13 under the DEA controlled substance registration.

14 (4) Upon submission of a complete application, payment of a fee established by the
15 board, and successful completion of a board-approved animal euthanasia specialist
16 training course by the applicant, the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners shall
17 issue to a[any] person whom it determines to be qualified, a certificate for the
18 person to function as a certified animal euthanasia specialist, subject to the
19 following restrictions:

20 (a) A certified animal euthanasia specialist shall comply with certification
21 renewal requirements as set forth in Section 6 of this Act or the certificate
22 shall expire;

23 (b) A certified animal euthanasia specialist shall maintain an employment
24 relationship with a certified animal control agency to be qualified to
25 practice animal euthanasia;

26 (c) A certified animal euthanasia specialist is authorized to perform euthanasia
27 only on the premises of the certified animal control agency, except in case

1 of emergency care;

2 (d) A certified animal euthanasia specialist shall euthanize only animals that
 3 are owned by the certified animal control agency, or in cases of emergency
 4 care. Transfer of ownership or a temporary contract shall not be used for
 5 the purpose of circumventing this subsection;

6 (e) A certified animal euthanasia specialist shall not perform euthanasia at a
 7 private residence; and

8 (f) A certified animal euthanasia specialist shall not perform euthanasia for a
 9 fee or other personal gain.

10 ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ Euthanasia of animals in a certified animal control agency shall only be
 11 performed by:

12 (a) A licensed veterinarian;~~including~~

13 (b) A licensed veterinary technician~~employed by and~~ functioning under the~~the~~
 14 ~~direct~~ supervision of a licensed veterinarian;~~or~~

15 (c) A certified animal euthanasia specialist as provided for in subsection ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~
 16 of this section.

17 (6) A certified animal control agency that employs a certified animal euthanasia
 18 specialist may purchase, possess, and administer the specific~~sodium pentobarbital~~
 19 ~~or other~~ drugs approved by~~that~~ the board in administrative regulation~~approves~~
 20 for the euthanasia or sedation of animals for euthanasia. The specific~~Sodium~~
 21 ~~pentobarbital and other~~ drugs approved by the board shall be the only drugs used
 22 by certified animal euthanasia specialists for the euthanasia of animals or sedation
 23 of animals for euthanasia in a certified animal control agency.

24 ~~(7)~~~~(5)~~ Certified animal control agencies and certified animal euthanasia specialists
 25 shall be required to renew their certificates at intervals, upon conditions, and upon
 26 the payment of fees established by the board through the promulgation of
 27 administrative regulations.

1 (8) (a) A veterinarian who is contracted or otherwise employed by an animal
 2 shelter shall not store drugs obtained under the veterinarian's DEA
 3 controlled substance registration in the same locked storage unit where the
 4 drugs obtained under another DEA controlled substance registration are
 5 stored.

6 (b) Separate and secure storage arrangements, drug logs, drug order forms,
 7 and secure, limited access shall be required for each separate DEA
 8 controlled substance registration.

9 (c) A veterinarian shall not store drugs ordered under the veterinarian's DEA
 10 controlled substance registration at an animal shelter unless the DEA
 11 controlled substance registration under which the drugs are ordered lists
 12 the animal shelter address as the registrant address.

13 ➔Section 18. KRS 321.211 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) Each person licensed as a veterinarian shall biennially submit a completed renewal
 15 application and~~[, on or before September 30 of each even numbered year,]~~ pay to
 16 the board a renewal fee~~[to be promulgated by administrative regulation of the~~
 17 ~~board]~~ for the renewal of the person's~~[his]~~ license~~[. All licenses not renewed by~~
 18 ~~September 30 of each even numbered year shall expire based on the failure of the~~
 19 ~~individual to renew in a timely manner].~~

20 (2) A sixty (60) day grace period shall be allowed after the renewal
 21 deadline~~[September 30]~~, as required for renewal in subsection (1) of this section,
 22 during which time individuals may renew their licenses upon submission of a
 23 completed renewal application and payment of the renewal fee plus a late renewal
 24 fee~~[as promulgated by administrative regulation of the board]. All licenses not~~
 25 renewed by the grace period deadline~~[November 30]~~ shall expire~~[terminate]~~ based
 26 on the failure of the individual to renew in a timely manner. Upon
 27 expiration~~[termination]~~, the licensee is no longer eligible to engage in the practice

- 1 of veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth.
- 2 (3) After the sixty (60) day grace period, individuals with an expired~~[a terminated]~~
- 3 license may have their licenses reinstated upon submission of a completed
- 4 reinstatement application and payment of~~[the renewal fee plus]~~ a reinstatement
- 5 fee~~[as promulgated by administrative regulation of the board]~~. No person who
- 6 applies for reinstatement after expiration~~[termination]~~ of the person's
- 7 veterinarian~~[his]~~ license shall be required to submit to an~~[any]~~ examination as a
- 8 condition for reinstatement, if the reinstatement application is made within five (5)
- 9 years from the date of expiration~~[termination]~~.
- 10 (4) A suspended veterinarian license is subject to expiration and termination and shall
- 11 be renewed as provided in this chapter. Renewal or reinstatement shall not entitle
- 12 the licensee to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine until the suspension
- 13 has ended, or is otherwise removed by the board and the right to practice is restored
- 14 by the board.
- 15 (5) A revoked license is subject to expiration or termination but may not be renewed. If
- 16 it is reinstated, the licensee shall pay the reinstatement fee~~[as set forth in subsection~~
- 17 ~~(3) of this section and the renewal fee as set forth in subsection (1) of this section]~~.
- 18 (6) A person who fails to reinstate the person's veterinarian~~[his]~~ license within five (5)
- 19 years after its expiration or termination shall~~[may]~~ not have it renewed, restored,
- 20 reissued, or reinstated. A person may apply for and obtain a new license by meeting
- 21 the~~[current]~~ requirements of this chapter.
- 22 (7) The board may require that a person applying for renewal or reinstatement of
- 23 licensure show evidence of completion of continuing education as
- 24 promulgated~~[prescribed]~~ by the board in~~[by]~~ administrative regulation.
- 25 (8) The board may grant retired or inactive licensure status and may establish
- 26 conditions under which retired or inactive licenses may be renewed and reinstated
- 27 as set forth by the board in administrative regulation~~[regulations promulgated by]~~

1 ~~the board~~.

2 ➔Section 19. KRS 321.221 is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The board may issue a credential~~license~~ by endorsement to any applicant who,
4 upon submitting a completed application~~applying~~ to the board and remitting a fee
5 established in administrative regulation~~set by the board~~, demonstrates to the
6 board that the applicant~~he~~ has met the following requirements:

7 (a) The applicant is a graduate of an approved~~a~~ veterinary medical program,
8 approved veterinary technology program, or other educational
9 program~~college~~ approved by the board as appropriate to the board
10 credential;

11 (b) The applicant is of good moral character. As one (1) element of good moral
12 character, the board shall require each applicant to submit a full set of
13 fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining criminal records checks, pursuant
14 to applicable law. All good moral character information, including the
15 information obtained through the criminal background checks, shall be
16 relevant to credential eligibility determinations to the extent permitted by
17 law;

18 (c) The applicant holds a valid credential~~license~~ to practice veterinary
19 medicine, veterinary technology, animal euthanasia, or an allied animal
20 health profession and has engaged in the practice~~practiced veterinary~~
21 ~~medicine~~ in another state~~of the United States~~, the District of Columbia,~~or~~
22 a territory of the United States, or a province of Canada for at least one (1)
23 year immediately preceding application, if the requirements for
24 credentialing~~licensure~~ in the issuing state or province are equal to or higher
25 than the standards required for the issuance of a new credential~~license~~ under
26 the provisions of this chapter;~~and~~

27 (d) The applicant has passed an examination given by the board on the laws and

1 administrative regulations of the Commonwealth as required in
 2 administrative regulations promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter
 3 13A by the board under the provisions of this chapter; and
 4 (e) The applicant has been approved for a credential by the board~~[of Kentucky~~
 5 governing the practice of veterinary medicine].

6 (2) The board shall not issue a credential~~[license]~~ by endorsement to any applicant who
 7 is under investigation in another state, territory,~~[or]~~ the District of Columbia, a
 8 Canadian province, or any jurisdiction for an act which could result in disciplinary
 9 action in that jurisdiction until the investigation and disciplinary proceedings have
 10 been completed.

11 ➔Section 20. KRS 321.230 is amended to read as follows:

12 There hereby is created a board to be known as the "Kentucky Board of Veterinary
 13 Examiners."

14 (1) The board shall consist of eleven (11) members:

15 (a) Ten (10)~~[Nine (9)]~~ members shall be appointed by the Governor, as
 16 follows:~~[and the Commissioner of Agriculture or the Commissioner's~~
 17 ~~designee.]~~

18 1. Seven (7) members shall be citizens of the Commonwealth~~[of~~
 19 ~~Kentucky]~~ and shall be veterinarians, each~~[have been]~~ lawfully
 20 engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine in this Commonwealth
 21 for at least two (2) years immediately~~[next]~~ preceding the date of the
 22 member's appointment;~~[.]~~

23 2. One (1) member shall be a citizen of the Commonwealth and shall be a
 24 citizen at large who is not associated with or financially interested in the
 25 practices or businesses~~[practice or business]~~ regulated;~~[.]~~

26 3. One (1) member shall be a citizen of the Commonwealth and a licensed
 27 veterinary technician who has been employed in the veterinary field in

1 the Commonwealth for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the
2 date of the member's~~[his or her]~~ appointment; and

3 4. One (1) member shall be an allied animal health professional
4 permittee who has been working on animals in the Commonwealth for
5 at least two (2) years immediately preceding the date of the member's
6 appointment; and

7 (b) One (1) member shall be the Commissioner of Agriculture or designee.

8 (2) The Governor's appointments to the board shall maintain a composition that
9 includes diverse representation from each of the following areas:

10 (a) Species of animals served, including food animals, equines, and small
11 animals; and

12 (b) All regional areas of the Commonwealth, including eastern Kentucky,
13 western Kentucky, central Kentucky, and northern Kentucky.

14 (3) All appointed members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years and shall
15 serve until the member is reappointed or a qualified successor is appointed. The
16 terms shall be evenly staggered, so that no more than three (3) members are
17 appointed to full terms in any given calendar year.

18 (4) Any vacancy in the appointed membership of the board shall be filled for the
19 unexpired term by appointment by the Governor.

20 (5) Each member of the board shall receive one hundred dollars (\$100) per day for each
21 day or substantial part of a day of service actually given in carrying out the
22 member's~~[his]~~ duties under this chapter, in addition to the member's~~[his]~~ necessary
23 traveling, hotel, and contingent expenses incurred in attending the meetings of the
24 board and in the performance of the member's~~[his]~~ duties.

25 (6) A board member may be removed by the Governor, or removed by a three-fourths
26 (3/4) majority vote of the board upon one (1) or more of the following grounds:

27 (a) A poor attendance record, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office;

1 **(b) The refusal or inability for any reason of a board member to perform the**
2 **duties as a member of the board in an efficient, responsible, and**
3 **professional manner;**

4 **(c) The misuse of office by a member of the board to obtain financial or**
5 **material gain or advantage personally or for another through the office;**

6 **(d) A final adjudication by a recognized body including the courts that the**
7 **board member is in violation of the laws governing the practice of**
8 **veterinary medicine, the practice of veterinary technology, or other board**
9 **credentialed profession; or**

10 **(e) Other just and reasonable causes as determined solely by the board**
11 **pursuant to applicable law. In these cases, removal of a member of the**
12 **board shall be in accordance with KRS Chapters 13A, 13B, and other**
13 **applicable laws.**

14 ➔SECTION 21. KRS 321.235 IS REPEALED AND REENACTED TO READ
15 AS FOLLOWS:

16 **(1) The board shall:**

17 **(a) Administer and enforce this chapter and set and evaluate the qualifications**
18 **of applicants for licensure, certification, permitting, and registration;**

19 **(b) Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter**
20 **13A to effectively carry out and enforce the provisions of this chapter;**

21 **(c) Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter**
22 **13A to establish the fee amounts for all fees required by this chapter and the**
23 **fees for services provided by the board. Fees may not exceed amounts**
24 **necessary to generate sufficient funds to effectively carry out and enforce**
25 **the provisions of this chapter, including costs related to administration;**
26 **overhead; staffing; information technology; investigations; inspections;**
27 **administrative procedures; court costs; supplies; equipment; travel;**

1 educational awards; reserve funds for capital, operational, and
2 programmatic expenses; and education and outreach efforts;

3 (d) Promulgate a code of conduct governing the practice of veterinary medicine
4 that shall be based upon generally recognized principles of professional
5 conduct; and

6 (e) Maintain jurisdiction over persons and premises, regardless of their
7 licensure, certificate, permit, or registration status relative to acts,
8 omissions, complaints, grievances, and investigations which occurred
9 during the licensure, certification, permit, or registration period. The board
10 shall also maintain jurisdiction over registered facilities, irrespective of
11 their registration status, relative to acts, omissions, complaints, grievances,
12 and investigations which occurred during the registration period. This
13 jurisdiction shall be for purposes of enforcement of this chapter and any
14 administrative regulations promulgated under this chapter, including the
15 assessment and collection of fines, costs, and attorneys' fees. Jurisdiction of
16 the board shall also extend to persons engaging in the unauthorized
17 practice of veterinary medicine, unauthorized practice of veterinary
18 technology, unauthorized practice of animal euthanasia, or unauthorized
19 practice of an allied animal health professional on animals. Licensees,
20 certificate holders, permittees, and registrants shall not divest the board of
21 jurisdiction by changing or relinquishing licensure, certificate, permit, or
22 registration status.

23 (2) The board may:

24 (a) Issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of
25 accounts, books, and records, examine witnesses, pay appropriate witness
26 fees, administer oaths, and investigate allegations of practices violating this
27 chapter;

1 (b) Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter

2 13A:

3 1. To establish and enforce minimum standards for:

4 a. Criteria of programs or other mechanisms to ensure the
5 continuing competence of licensees, certificate holders,
6 permittees, and registrants;

7 b. Codes of conduct for its licensees, certificate holders, permittees,
8 and registrants; and

9 c. The registration of veterinary facilities, mobile facilities, and
10 AAHP facilities;

11 2. Regarding the limited scopes of allied animal health professional
12 practices or procedures on animals and the permitting thereof,
13 including:

14 a. Minimum requirements;

15 b. Examination requirements and passing scores;

16 c. Board oversight;

17 d. Conditions for application, permitting, renewal, renewal grace
18 periods, and reinstatement;

19 e. Limitations on practice; and

20 f. Minimum standards; and

21 3. To establish:

22 a. Specific duties and responsibilities of the board;

23 b. Administration of licensure, certification, permitting, or
24 registration;

25 c. Standards in veterinary medicine, medical records, and other
26 matters pertaining to veterinarians, veterinary technicians,
27 animal control agencies, animal euthanasia specialists,

- 1 designated on-site managers, allied animal health professionals,
2 veterinary facilities, AAHP facilities, veterinarian managers,
3 AAHP managers, registered responsible parties, or unlicensed
4 persons; and
- 5 d. A code of conduct for each license, certificate, permit, or
6 registration class issued by the board;
- 7 (c) Conduct investigations, inspections, and hearings, and keep records and
8 minutes necessary to carry out the function of this chapter;
- 9 (d) Enter and inspect any property or premises for the purpose of investigating
10 either actual or suspected veterinary practices, including practice vehicles
11 and mobile facilities, at any time for the purpose of ascertaining compliance
12 or noncompliance with this chapter, or any administrative regulation that
13 may be promulgated under this chapter, in accordance with protocols
14 established in this chapter and by the board in an administrative regulation;
- 15 (e) Evaluate the qualifications for and authorize the issuance of licenses,
16 certificates, permits, and registrations to qualified candidates and premises;
- 17 (f) Renew or deny licenses, certificates, permits, and registrations, require
18 continuing education as a condition for renewal, and promulgate
19 administrative regulations regarding the issuance and renewal of retired
20 and inactive licenses, certificates, permits, and registrations;
- 21 (g) Limit, reprimand, suspend, or revoke licenses, certificates, permits, and
22 registrations, or impose supervisory or probationary conditions upon
23 licensees, certificate holders, permittees, or registrants, or impose
24 administrative disciplinary fines, issue written reprimands, or any
25 combination thereof;
- 26 (h) Issue a notice to comply or a notice of violation to any person for violations
27 of any provision of this chapter or administrative regulations promulgated

1 pursuant to this chapter. A "notice to comply" or "NC" may be issued
2 during the inspection process to request additional information needed to
3 determine compliance or as a notice to correct a minor violation found
4 during the inspection. Failure to take corrective action may lead to the
5 issuance of a "notice of violation" or "NOV." A notice of violation means
6 that a business or person is operating in violation of the law and subject to
7 penalty pursuant to this chapter. Each day or part of a day that the violation
8 continues is a separate violation subject to daily penalties. A notice of
9 violation shall contain:

10 1. A citation to the statutory or regulatory requirement that has been or
11 is being violated;

12 2. A description of the circumstances surrounding the violation, set forth
13 in common and concise language;

14 3. Measures required to correct the violation;

15 4. A reasonable time for correction, if the respondent cannot take
16 measures to correct the violation immediately; and

17 5. Notice of rights of appeal;

18 (i) Advise, consult, and cooperate with other agencies of the Commonwealth,
19 other states, the federal government, interstate and interlocal agencies, and
20 affected persons, groups, and industries;

21 (j) Seek injunctive relief in Franklin Circuit Court to stop the unlawful
22 practice of veterinary medicine or practice of veterinary technology by
23 unlicensed persons, or against any person for the enforcement of this
24 chapter or any administrative regulations promulgated pursuant to this
25 chapter;

26 (k) Appoint from its own membership or staff one (1) or more members or
27 personnel to act as representatives of the board at any meeting within or

1 outside the Commonwealth; and

2 (L) Implement an educational award program to award scholarships or
3 educational awards as determined by the board, to a person in the act of
4 advancing toward, or having completed a degree in, veterinary medicine or
5 veterinary technology from an approved veterinary medical program or
6 approved veterinary technology program, and may take any other
7 appropriate action to effectuate the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act in
8 accordance with the following:

9 1. The selected awardee or awardees shall agree to sign an award
10 contract guaranteeing to provide food animal or rural veterinary
11 services or to protect public health in a veterinary resource shortage
12 area identified by the board. Failure of an awardee to comply with the
13 terms of the award contract shall be cause for the board to seek
14 reimbursement of the award;

15 2. The board shall establish the required members of an educational
16 award review committee through an administrative regulation and
17 may contract with other state agencies, entities, and nonprofit
18 organizations for the endowment, management, and administration of
19 the educational award program. The requirements for the educational
20 awards program, including application requirements, criteria for
21 selecting applicants, criteria for identifying veterinary resource
22 shortage areas, and criteria for prioritizing underserved areas, shall be
23 determined by the board in administrative regulation. However,
24 nothing contained in this section shall be construed as requiring the
25 board to endow or award any scholarship or educational award; and

26 3. Educational award monies shall be collected as a portion of
27 veterinarian and veterinary technician renewal fees. No more than

1 fifteen percent (15%) of the monies collected during a single
 2 veterinarian renewal period may be applied to the educational awards
 3 program.

4 (3) As a part of any board investigation under this section or Section 25 of this Act,
 5 the board may require an applicant, credential holder, or any other person
 6 engaging in a veterinary practice or activity regulated by the board under this
 7 chapter to submit to a criminal background investigation conducted in
 8 accordance with Section 7 of this Act.

9 (4) Members of the board, its agents, and employees shall be immune from personal
 10 liability in any action, civil or criminal, which is based upon any official act or
 11 acts performed by them in good faith.

12 ➔Section 22. KRS 321.237 is amended to read as follows:

13 (1) The board may~~[shall have the authority to]~~ establish a veterinary wellness
 14 committee to undertake the functions and responsibilities of a veterinary wellness
 15 program. The functions and responsibilities may include any of the following:

16 (a) Receiving and evaluating reports of suspected impairment or incapacitation
 17 from any source;

18 (b) Issuing an order directing an applicant, certificate holder, licensee,
 19 designated on-site manager, permittee, registrant, or veterinarian manager
 20 to undergo a mental or physical examination or chemical dependency
 21 evaluation, when probable cause exists that the credential holder has
 22 engaged in conduct prohibited by this chapter or a statute or administrative
 23 regulation enforced by the board. For the purpose of this section, every
 24 credential holder is considered to have consented to undergo a mental or
 25 physical examination or chemical dependency evaluation when ordered to
 26 do so, in writing, by the board and to have waived all objections to the
 27 admissibility of the examiner's or evaluator's testimony or reports on the

1 grounds that the testimony or reports constitute a privileged
 2 communication;

3 (c) Intervening in cases of verified or suspected impairment or incapacitation; or
 4 (d)~~(e)~~ Referring impaired or incapacitated credential holders, registrants,
 5 designated on-site managers, veterinarian managers, or
 6 applicants~~[veterinarians]~~ to treatment programs as a requirement of initial or
 7 continued licensure, certification, registration, or permitting.

8 (2) Other provisions of law notwithstanding, all board and committee records
 9 pertaining to the veterinary wellness program shall be kept confidential. No person
 10 in attendance at any meeting of the committee shall be required to testify as to any
 11 committee discussions or proceedings.

12 (3) Other provisions of law notwithstanding, no member of the board or the veterinary
 13 wellness committee shall be liable for damages to any person for any acts,
 14 omissions, or recommendations made by the member in good faith while acting
 15 within the scope of the member's responsibilities in accordance with this section.

16 ➔Section 23. KRS 321.240 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The board shall annually elect a chair and a vice chair from the appointed members
 18 of the board. Officers of the board shall serve for terms of one (1) year and until a
 19 successor is elected, as long as the officer holds a current appointment to the
 20 board.

21 (2) The board shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings annually and additional
 22 meetings as the board may deem necessary. The additional meetings may be held
 23 upon call of the chair or upon written request of three (3) members of the board.

24 (3) Five (5) members of the board shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

25 (4)~~(3)~~ The board may employ its own executive director and staff, or employ or
 26 contract with any other persons it deems necessary to carry on the work of the
 27 board and shall define their duties and fix their compensation. Should the board

1 *prefer not to directly employ or contract with persons to serve as its executive*
 2 *director or staff, the board may enter into a contract with another state agency in*
 3 *which the board shall pay to the agency a sum sufficient to offset that agency's*
 4 *costs in the salary and benefits of one (1) or more employees who will be assigned*
 5 *to serve the board as its executive director and staff.*

6 ~~[(4) Upon recommendation of the board, the Governor may remove any member of the~~
 7 ~~board for a poor attendance record, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.~~

8 ~~(5) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations as it may deem necessary~~
 9 ~~and proper to effectively carry out and enforce the provisions of this chapter,~~
 10 ~~including regulations to establish authorized fees. Fees may not exceed amounts~~
 11 ~~necessary to generate sufficient funds to effectively carry out and enforce the~~
 12 ~~provisions of this chapter.~~

13 ~~(6) The board shall promulgate a code of conduct governing the practice of veterinary~~
 14 ~~medicine which shall be based upon generally recognized principles of professional~~
 15 ~~ethical conduct.]~~

16 ➔ Section 24. KRS 321.320 is amended to read as follows:

17 *(1)* All fees and other moneys received by the board pursuant to the provisions of this
 18 chapter shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of a revolving fund for
 19 the use of the board.

20 *(2)* *(a)* No part of this revolving fund shall revert to the general funds of this
 21 Commonwealth.

22 *(b)* *Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, fund amounts not expended at the close of a*
 23 *fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the next fiscal*
 24 *year.*

25 *(c)* *Any interest earnings of the fund shall become a part of the fund and shall*
 26 *not lapse.*

27 *(3)* *All expenses incurred by the board shall be paid from this revolving fund,*

1 including:

2 (a) The compensation of members of the board;

3 (b) Salaries, wages, and benefits~~[and all]~~ of the employees of the board;

4 (c) Payment of contractors hired by the board;

5 (d) Administrative services provided to the board;

6 (e) Investigative and legal services;

7 (f) Court costs;

8 (g) Technology expenses related to administration of this chapter; and

9 (h) All other expenses incurred by the board~~[shall be paid from this revolving~~
10 ~~fund].~~

11 (4) The board shall keep and maintain a reserve fund for capital, operational, and
12 programmatic expenses.

13 (5) Scholarships and other educational awards approved by the board for the
14 purpose of promoting persons entering into the fields of veterinary medicine shall
15 be paid from this revolving fund.

16 (6) The board may receive and expend funds, in addition to fees collected from
17 parties other than applicants and credential holders, provided that these funds
18 shall be used in the pursuit of a specific objective that the board may accomplish
19 by this chapter or which the board is qualified to accomplish by reason of its
20 jurisdiction or professional expertise.

21 (7) The board may direct investment of that portion of its revolving fund not needed
22 to meet current expenses, the earning from which investments shall also be
23 credited to the revolving fund of the board.

24 (8) The fund shall be held subject to the order of the board, and to be used for
25 meeting necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the purposes of this
26 chapter and the duties imposed thereby.

27 ➔Section 25. KRS 321.351 is amended to read as follows:

- 1 (1) The board may refuse to issue a credential~~[license]~~, or may suspend, revoke,
2 impose probationary or supervisory conditions upon, impose an administrative fine
3 not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation, issue a written
4 reprimand, issue a private admonishment, or any combination of actions regarding
5 any credential holder~~[licensee]~~ upon proof that the credential holder~~[licensee]~~ has:
- 6 (a) Committed any act of dishonesty or corruption, if in accordance with KRS
7 Chapter 335B. If the act constitutes a crime, conviction in a criminal
8 proceeding is not a condition precedent to disciplinary action. Upon
9 conviction of the crime, the judgment and sentence are presumptive evidence
10 at the ensuing disciplinary hearing of the guilt of the credential
11 holder~~[licensee]~~ or applicant. "Conviction," as used in this paragraph, shall
12 include a finding or verdict of guilt, an admission of guilt, or a plea of nolo
13 contendere;
- 14 (b) Misrepresented or concealed a material fact in obtaining a board
15 credential~~[license]~~, or in reinstatement of a board credential~~[license]~~;
- 16 (c) Committed any unfair, false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice;
- 17 (d) Been incompetent or negligent in the practice of veterinary medicine, the
18 practice of veterinary technology, animal euthanasia, allied animal health
19 professional activities, or any associated professional activities;
- 20 (e) Violated any~~[state]~~ statute or administrative regulation governing the practice
21 of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, animal euthanasia, allied
22 animal health professional activities, or any associated professional
23 activities~~[or any activities undertaken by a veterinarian]~~;
- 24 (f) Failed to comply with an order issued by the board or an assurance of
25 voluntary compliance;
- 26 (g) Violated the code of~~[ethical]~~ conduct as set forth by the board by
27 administrative regulation;~~[or]~~

- 1 (h) *Become impaired or incapacitated and unable to perform that person's*
2 *duties with reasonable skill and safety; or*
- 3 (i) Violated any applicable provision of any federal or state law or regulation
4 regarding the dispensing of controlled *substances, veterinary drugs,*
5 *veterinary prescription drugs,* or legend drugs, if in accordance with KRS
6 Chapter 335B.
- 7 (2) Five (5) years from the date of a revocation, any person whose *board*
8 *credential*~~[license]~~ has been revoked may petition the board for reinstatement. The
9 board shall investigate the petition and may reinstate the *board credential*~~[license]~~
10 upon a finding that the individual has complied with any terms prescribed by the
11 board and is again able to competently engage in ~~the~~ practice ~~of veterinary~~
12 ~~medicine~~.
- 13 (3) When in the judgment of the board, an alleged violation is not of a serious nature,
14 and the evidence presented to the board after the investigation and appropriate
15 opportunity for the *credential holder*~~[licensee]~~ to respond, provides a clear
16 indication that the alleged violation did in fact occur, the board may issue a written
17 reprimand to the *credential holder*~~[licensee]~~. A copy of the reprimand shall be
18 placed in the permanent file of the *credential holder*~~[licensee]~~. The *credential*
19 *holder*~~[licensee]~~ shall have the right to file a response to the reprimand within thirty
20 (30) days of its receipt and to have the response placed in the permanent licensure
21 file. The *credential holder*~~[licensee]~~ may alternatively, within thirty (30) days of
22 the receipt, file a request for hearing with the board. Upon receipt of this request the
23 board shall set aside the written reprimand and set the matter for hearing.
- 24 (4) At any time during the investigative or hearing processes, the board may enter into
25 an agreed order, *settlement agreement,* or accept an assurance of voluntary
26 compliance with the *credential holder*~~[licensee]~~ which effectively deals with the
27 complaint *or grievance.*

- 1 (5) The board may reconsider, modify, or reverse its probation, **reprimand,**
 2 suspensions, or other disciplinary action.
- 3 (6) Private admonishment shall not be subject to disclosure to the public under KRS
 4 61.878 and shall not constitute disciplinary action, but may be used by the board for
 5 statistical purposes or in a subsequent disciplinary action against the **credential**
 6 **holder**~~[licensee]~~ or applicant.
- 7 **(7) As a part of any board investigation under this section or Section 21 of this Act,**
 8 **the board may require an applicant, credential holder, or any other person**
 9 **engaging in a veterinary practice or activity regulated by the board under this**
 10 **chapter to submit to a criminal background investigation conducted in**
 11 **accordance with Section 7 of this Act.**
- 12 **(8) For the purposes of this section, "credential holder" means a person who:**
- 13 **(a) Holds any license, certificate, permit, registration, or other credential issued**
 14 **or approved by the board; or**
- 15 **(b) Serves as the veterinarian manager, AAHP manager, registered responsible**
 16 **party designated on a facility registration or AAHP facility registration, or**
 17 **serves as the designated on-site manager designated for a certified animal**
 18 **control agency.**
- 19 ➔Section 26. KRS 321.353 is amended to read as follows:
- 20 (1) The board may, by a majority vote, issue an emergency order for the immediate,
 21 temporary suspension of a license, **certificate, permit, or registration** against which
 22 disciplinary action, an investigation, or initiating complaint is pending if the order is
 23 necessary to protect the public.
- 24 (2) The emergency order shall be made in accordance with KRS 13B.125 and shall be
 25 based upon a finding by the board that the emergency order is in the public interest
 26 and that there is substantial evidence of immediate danger to the health, welfare,
 27 and safety of the **credential holder's**~~[licensee's]~~ clients,~~[or]~~ animals, or the general

1 public.

2 (3) A licensee, certificate holder, permittee, or registrant may appeal the emergency
3 order by filing a written request to the board for an emergency hearing in
4 accordance with KRS 13B.125 within thirty (30) days after receipt of the order.

5 (4) The appeal of an emergency order shall address only the necessity for the action
6 and shall not constitute an appeal of the merits of the underlying complaint or
7 charge.

8 (5) The emergency order shall remain in effect until modified or vacated by the board
9 or hearing officer or superseded by final disciplinary action of the board or hearing
10 officer on the underlying complaint or charge.

11 (6) The board shall expedite disciplinary hearings in which a licensee, certificate
12 holder, permittee, or registrant has been suspended under subsection (1) of this
13 section.

14 (7) Any party aggrieved by a final order of the board may appeal to the Franklin Circuit
15 Court after a written decision is issued by the board in accordance with KRS
16 Chapter 13B.

17 ➔Section 27. KRS 321.360 is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) Except as provided in Section 21 of this Act, Section 25 of this Act, and KRS
19 321.353, the board, before suspending, revoking, imposing probationary or
20 supervisory conditions upon, imposing an administrative fine, or any combination
21 of actions regarding any license, certificate, permit, or registration, or regarding
22 any veterinarian manager, AAHP manager, registered responsible party, or
23 designated on-site manager under the provisions of this chapter, shall set the
24 matter for hearing in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B. After denying an
25 application under the provisions of this chapter, or issuing a written reprimand, the
26 board shall grant a hearing in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B to the denied
27 applicant only upon written request of the applicant made within thirty (30) days of

1 the date of the letter advising of the denial or the reprimand.

2 (2) Any party aggrieved by a final order of the board may appeal to Franklin Circuit
3 Court in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.

4 ➔Section 28. KRS 321.441 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) The board shall issue a license as a veterinary technician to an applicant who:

6 (a) Is a graduate of an approved~~accredited program of~~ veterinary technology
7 program~~for its equivalent as approved by the board~~, with an associate or
8 bachelor's degree related to veterinary technology;

9 (b) Obtains a passing score on an examination as determined by the board to
10 assess the qualifications and fitness of an applicant to engage in the practice;~~†~~
11 ~~and~~

12 (c) Is a person of good moral character. As one (1) element of good moral
13 character, the board shall require each applicant for licensure to submit a
14 full set of the applicant's fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining criminal
15 records checks, pursuant to applicable law. All good moral character
16 information, including the information obtained through the criminal
17 background checks, shall be relevant to licensure eligibility determinations
18 to the extent permitted by law;

19 (d) Has met all the requirements of the board as established by administrative
20 regulation of the board; and

21 (e) Has been approved for licensure by the board.

22 (2) For the purpose of this chapter, "veterinary technician," "veterinary
23 technologist," "veterinary nurse," or any other category of veterinary technician
24 defined by the board in administrative regulation shall have the same meaning as
25 "veterinary technician" under this chapter.

26 (3) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations for one (1) or more
27 categories of veterinary technicians defining the:

1 (a) Minimum qualifications required;

2 (b) Specific tasks that the licensee may perform under a veterinarian's
3 supervision; and

4 (c) Specific tasks that the licensee shall not perform.

5 (4) A veterinary technician shall be prohibited from performing the activities listed in
6 subsection (6) of Section 12 of this Act.

7 (5) The practice of veterinary technology by telehealth or other means shall
8 constitute the practice of veterinary technology subject to licensure and
9 enforcement by the board.

10 (6) A veterinary technician who performs veterinary technology contrary to this
11 chapter and its associated administrative regulations shall be subject to
12 disciplinary actions in a manner consistent with this chapter applicable to
13 licensed veterinarians [defining the scope of practice of the veterinary technician as
14 well as the delegable duties from a licensed veterinarian].

15 ~~(7)~~ (3) Each veterinary technician licensed by the board shall pay an annual fee as
16 prescribed by the board.

17 (8) Each veterinary technician licensed by the board shall complete [attend] annual
18 continuing education hours to renew the license as required by the board in
19 administrative regulation [to renew the license].

20 (9) Failure to renew shall result in the expiration [termination] of the license [If a
21 hearing is requested upon the rejection of an application, or upon the termination of
22 a license, a hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the KRS 321.360.

23 ~~(4)~~ The services of a licensed veterinary technician shall be limited to the performance
24 of duties under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, except for the
25 routine administration of drugs, vaccines, parasite control agents, and growth
26 stimulating implants for food animals prescribed by a veterinarian and under the
27 indirect supervision of a veterinarian where a veterinarian-client-patient relationship

1 ~~exists. A licensed veterinary technician shall receive no fee or compensation for~~
 2 ~~services other than salary or compensation paid by the establishment by which the~~
 3 ~~licensed veterinary technician is employed. A licensed veterinary technician shall~~
 4 ~~not participate in the operation of a branch office, clinic, or allied establishment~~
 5 ~~unless a licensed veterinarian is on the premises. A licensed veterinary technician~~
 6 ~~shall not diagnose, prescribe medication or treatment, or perform surgical~~
 7 ~~procedures other than castrating and dehorning of food animals. A licensed~~
 8 ~~veterinary technician may assist a veterinarian in all duties of veterinary medicine~~
 9 ~~and surgery].~~

10 ~~(10)~~⁽⁵⁾ A veterinarian shall utilize the services of a licensed veterinary technician in
 11 accordance with the terms and provisions of this chapter **and its associated**
 12 **administrative regulations**. Unauthorized utilization of licensed veterinary
 13 technicians by veterinarians shall be considered as aiding and abetting any
 14 unlicensed person to practice veterinary medicine as described in KRS 321.351.

15 ~~(11)~~⁽⁶⁾ Nothing in this section shall prohibit volunteer health practitioners from
 16 providing services under KRS 39A.350 to 39A.366.

17 **(12) Except as authorized by Section 14 of this Act, no person shall practice as a**
 18 **veterinary technician or perform any of the duties usually performed by a**
 19 **veterinary technician unless the person holds a license to practice as a veterinary**
 20 **technician issued and validly existing under the laws of this Commonwealth, as**
 21 **provided in the Kentucky Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.**

22 ➔Section 29. KRS 321.443 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) A veterinary assistant **shall only work in the Commonwealth in the following**
 24 **circumstances:**

25 **(a) Under the supervision of a board-licensed veterinarian where a VCPR**
 26 **exists; or**

27 **(b) Under the direct supervision of a board-licensed veterinary technician who**

1 is under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian where a VCPR
 2 exists ~~[may work only under the direct supervision of a veterinarian except for~~
 3 ~~the routine administration of drugs, vaccines, parasite control agents, and~~
 4 ~~growth stimulating implants for food animals prescribed by a veterinarian and~~
 5 ~~under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian where a veterinarian-client-~~
 6 ~~patient relationship exists].~~

7 (2) Duties of a veterinary assistant shall exclude diagnosing, prescribing medication or
 8 treatment, and performance of surgical procedures other than castrating and
 9 dehorning of food animals.

10 (3) A veterinary assistant and the veterinary assistant's employer shall not represent
 11 the veterinary assistant as a veterinary technician.

12 (4) A veterinary assistant who performs the duties of a veterinary assistant contrary
 13 to this chapter or outside the scope defined by the board shall be subject to
 14 disciplinary actions in a manner consistent with this chapter applicable to
 15 licensed veterinarians.

16 (5) A veterinarian shall utilize the service of a veterinary assistant in accordance with
 17 the terms and provisions of this chapter and its associated administrative
 18 regulations. Unauthorized utilization of veterinary assistants shall be considered as
 19 aiding and abetting an unlicensed person to practice veterinary medicine as
 20 described in KRS 321.351.

21 ➔SECTION 30. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 321 IS CREATED TO
 22 READ AS FOLLOWS:

23 (1) The board shall establish the amounts, limits, or ranges for any fines imposed
 24 under this chapter through the promulgation of administrative regulations. The
 25 board shall fine any person who:

26 (a) Violates or aids in the violation of Section 8, 12, 15, 17, 28, or 29 of this Act
 27 for practicing or for performing services without a credential required by

1 the board;

2 (b) Is issued a notice of violation by the board for failure to comply with this
3 chapter or administrative regulations promulgated under this chapter;

4 (c) Exercises or attempts to exercise control over, interferes with, or attempts to
5 influence the professional judgment of a credential holder in any manner,
6 including through coercion, collusion, extortion, inducement, or
7 intimidation;

8 (d) 1. Violates any ruling of the board or hinders any agent of the board in
9 carrying out the duties assigned to them;

10 2. Is an officer who refuses to enforce the provisions of this chapter
11 when called upon by the board to do so; or

12 3. Attempts in any way to hinder or obstruct the board in carrying out the
13 provisions of this chapter; or

14 (e) Resists, obstructs, interferes with, threatens, attempts to intimidate, or in
15 any other manner interferes with an agent of the board or who willfully
16 refuses to obey their lawful orders.

17 (2) The board may impose additional fines on a person who is convicted under
18 Section 31 of this Act.

19 (3) Each day or part of a day that a violation continues is a separate violation and
20 subject to daily penalties.

21 (4) For any violation of the Kentucky Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, in addition
22 to any other fines designated in this section, the board may impose on any person
23 fines in an amount equal to the cost of investigative and legal fees incurred by the
24 board in processing the case.

25 ➔Section 31. KRS 321.990 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) Any person who violates or aids in the violation of Section 8, 12, 15, 17, 28, or 29
27 of this Act for practicing or for performing services without a credential required

1 by the board shall be guilty of a misdemeanor upon conviction in court, and shall
2 be sentenced to jail for not less than ten (10) days nor more than ninety (90) days
3 per violation.

4 (2) Any person exercising or attempting to exercise control over, interfering with, or
5 attempting to influence the professional judgment of a credential holder in any
6 manner, including through coercion, collusion, extortion, inducement, or
7 intimidation, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor upon conviction in court, and shall
8 be sentenced to jail for not less than ten (10) days nor more than ninety (90) days
9 per violation.

10 (3) Any person who resists, obstructs, interferes with, threatens, attempts to
11 intimidate, or in any other manner interferes with an agent of the board or who
12 willfully refuses to obey their lawful orders shall be guilty of a misdemeanor upon
13 conviction in court, and shall be sentenced to jail for not more than thirty (30)
14 days for each offense.

15 (4) Each day or part of a day that a violation continues is a separate violation and
16 subject to daily penalties.

17 (5) Nothing in this section shall limit, preclude, or supersede the board's power to:

18 (a) Impose fines for a violation of this chapter or any administrative
19 regulations promulgated under this chapter;

20 (b) Deny, restrict, or revoke a license issued under this chapter or
21 administrative regulations promulgated under this chapter; and

22 (c) Impose any other form of discipline based on a conviction under this
23 section or as otherwise authorized by this chapter or administrative
24 regulations promulgated under this chapter

25 ~~Any person who shall violate or~~
26 ~~aid in the violation of KRS 321.190 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and~~
27 ~~upon conviction shall be fined not less than ten dollars (\$10) nor more than~~
~~five hundred dollars (\$500), or sentenced to jail for not less than ten (10) nor~~

1 ~~more than ninety (90) days, or both so fined and imprisoned in the discretion~~
2 ~~of the jury.~~

3 ➔Section 32. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person
4 or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or
5 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or
6 application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.